

# SUPREME GRAND ROYAL ARCH CHAPTER OF NEW ZEALAND



## Proceedings of the One Hundred and Thirty-Fourth Convocation, 2026

## Transactions of the 134<sup>th</sup> Annual Convocation held on 22 February 2026 by Zoom

The Business Session was opened by ME Comp Ken Burt GZ at 6:50 pm. ME Comp Burt thanked Grand Lodge for providing the videoconferencing facility at Grand Lodge offices.

### Attendees

- ME Comp Ken Burt, Dennis Waller, Bruce Hebbard, Graeme Pengelly
- RE Comp David Ryan, Alan Hart, Greg Bennett, John MacDonald, Peter Smith, Phil Brooke, Herb Carberry, Mike Downey, David Craddock, Ian Plummer, Paul Sargison, Robert Jaray, Bob Cresswell, George Allan, Keith Campbell, John Evered
- VE Comp Duane Williams, Peter Sutherland, Gordon Ragg, Geoff Parry, Alan Cuthbert, Mark Pagulayan, Etienne Gray, Taz Webster, Tony Cross, Azher Mir, Ainsley Watson, Peter McHannigan, Doug Fenwick, Stuart Harrison
- E Comp Paul Sullivan
- Comp Peter Williams

### Apologies

Apologies for the Business Session were received from:

- ME Comp Brian White, Geoff Davies
- RE Comp Kerry Dalzell, Ian Kerr, Roger Gregory, John Francis GPA, Paul Johnston
- VE Comp Kevin Neilson, Ian Guthrie, David Trott, Kerry Otto, John Riding, Allan Wilkins
- Bro Paul McPherson, Brett Kenyon

### Ratification of transactions (minutes) of last meeting

Moved by ME Comp Ken Burt, seconded by ME Comp Dennis Waller, that the transactions of the 133<sup>rd</sup> Annual Convocation held in Hamilton on 8 March 2025 be ratified.

Carried

### In memoriam

The following deaths were advised since Convocation 2025 (updated to the date of Convocation 2026). There may be omissions. Grand Chapter apologises if the deaths of some Companions have been missed. We rely on notification from Chapters.

Title	Name	Rank	Chapter	Date of death or date advised
VE Comp	Ron Penhale	PGStdB	Manawatu 11	12/03/2025
VE Comp	Brian Cliff	PAGDC	Ara 53	14/03/2025
VE Comp	Ron Anderson		Ohinemuri 17	24/03/2025
VE Comp	Paul Bacon		St Augustine 1	March 2025
VE Comp	Russell Dickson	PGDC	Victory 12	12/04/2025
ME Comp	Norman Richardson	PGZ	Otaihape 43	16/05/2025
RE Comp	Leo Stafford-Bush	PGDC SGR	Karangahape 69	29/05/2025

Title	Name	Rank	Chapter	Date of death or date advised
VE Comp	Ian Thorpe		Tawhiri 97	May 2025
Comp	James Annear		Timaru 15	20/05/2025
RE Comp	Nigel Petrie	PDGZ	Heretaunga 38	25/06/2025
VE Comp	Walter Johnson		Te Awamutu 88	23/06/2025
RE Comp	John Wink	PDGZ	Bay of Plenty 37	03/07/2025
VE Comp	Peter Jackson	PGSoj	Heretaunga 38	27/07/2025
VE Comp	David Watson	PZ	Piako 48	01/08/2025
Comp	Ken Broad		St Andrew 90	05/08/2025
ME Comp	Eoin Dryden	PGZ	Timaru 15	07/08/2025
VE Comp	Ian Burns	PZ	Hutt-Wairarapa 10	12/08/2025
E Comp	George Walton		Piako 48	13/08/2025
RE Comp	Noel Chapman	PG Lec	Wellington 62	07/09/2025
Comp	Max Warhurst		St Andrew 90	29/09/2025
Comp	Peter Dix		Ara 53	01/10/2025
VE Comp	Brent Willoughby	PZ	Ara 53	08/10/2025
RE Comp	John Price	PG Lec	Mt Maunganui 103	14/10/2025
RE Comp	Colin Johnson	PDGZ	Wanganui 23	03/11/2025
Comp	Alan Bevins		Howick 101	08/01/2026
RE Comp	Adam Love	PGJ	St Andrew 90	09/01/2026
VE Comp	Rick Masterton	PGStdB	Hutt-Wairarapa 10	04/03/2026

## Awards

### a) Long-term service awards

The following awards and bars were issued since Convocation 2025.

Number	Title	Name	Rank	Chapter
<b>40-year service awards</b>				
1602	RE Comp	R M Bray	PGSupt	Victoria 4
1603	RE Comp	G W Allan	PG Lec	Waterloo-Russell 2
1604	VE Comp	P B Wagener	PGSwdB	W F Massey 61
1605	VE Comp	J R Harvey	PGDC	Marlborough 14

<b>5-year bars</b>				
2 <sup>nd</sup> Bar (50 yrs)	RE Comp	B M Oldcorn	PGStdB SGR	Hutt-Wairarapa 10
	RE Comp	B R MacConnell	PGJ	Victoria 4
	VE Comp	T A Jenkin	PGStdB	W F Massey 61
1 <sup>st</sup> Bar (45 yrs)	VE Comp	M A F Jacob	PGSwdB	Rose and Thistle 35
	RE Comp	M J Green	PGDC SGR	Rose and Thistle 35

## b) Order of Meritorious Service

No new members were admitted to the Order in 2025-26. Membership of the Order is limited to ten at any one time. The current holders are as follows (with their year of admission to the Order).

2011 VE Comp B S Goodall  
 2012 VE Comp I E Jonasen  
 2012 VE Comp D E Lyons  
 2018 VE Comp W F Hulme  
 2021 VE Comp T E Norris  
 2024 VE Comp D H Carroll  
 2024 VE Comp J T France

The full list of awards since inception is as follows.

Name	Chapter	Date awarded
Comp W R J Jones	Rangitoto	1976
Comp J L Dance	Otago	1976
Comp H Calvert	Hinemoa	1976
Comp G B Williams	Ashley	1977
Comp R Tilson	Bay of Islands	1977
Comp J S Gasparich	Victoria	1978
Comp G B Gibbons	Sandford	1978
Comp T G Russell	Shirley	1980
Comp H Hankey	Gisborne	1980
Comp J W S Cleverley	Oroua	1981
Comp R N Murray	Otago	1981
Comp J W Hardy	Carlyle	1982
Comp F O Bartram	Mt Maunganui	1982
Comp S M Ryburn	Howick	1983
Comp G Lewis	Waitemata	1984
Comp W Bluett	Waitemata	1985
Comp A A Elston	McVilly	1988
Comp A W Burr	Auckland	1988
Comp H.T. Walmsley	Akarana	1990
Comp W E Barnard	Tirimoa	1992
Comp F H Cushing	Rawhiti	1992
Comp N H Duncan	Te Awamutu	1994
Comp J R King	Marlborough	1996
Comp F R Baker	Mt Eden	1997
Comp M W Snadden	Cromwell Coronation	2002
Comp P W J Cain	Oroua	2009
Comp E A Thorpe	Victoria	2009
VE Comp B S Goodall	Ara	5/12/2011
VE Comp I E Jonasen	Shirley	23/11/2012

Name	Chapter	Date awarded
VE Comp D E Lyons	Howick	23/11/2012
VE Comp W F Hulme	Auckland	16/08/2018
VE Comp T E Norris	Aurora	10/02/2021
VE Comp D H Carroll	Ara	19/08/2024
VE Comp J T France	Ara	19/08/2024

### c) First Grand Principal's Awards

During 2025-26 one award was made to VE Comp John Lever. The full list of awards since inception is as follows.

Year	Name	Rank	Chapter
2025	John Anthony Frank Lever	PGStdB	Mt Maunganui 103
2024	John Charles Andersen Francis	PGH	Manawatu 11
2023	Murray Harley Alford	PGSwdB	Wellington 62
2022	Neville James Hall	GSwdB	Southern Cross 3
2022	Colin Bruce Heyward	PGSN SGR	Bedford 39
2020	Robert Stanley Robertson	PGDC	Heretaunga 38
2019	George Edward Butler	PZ	Timaru 15
2018	David Marshall	PGSuptWks	Manawatu 11
2018	Roger Gregory	GSupt	Paritutu 5
2018	David St John Keenan	PGSwdB	McVilly 85
2017	Laurence Reginald Chetham	PGSwdB	St Andrew 90
2017	Thomas Edward Norris	PZ	Aurora 109
2017	Robert John Wright	PZ	Albert Edward 6
2017	Raymond Barry Glover	SGR	Brooklyn 24
2017	Robert Samuel Jaray	GSE	Brooklyn 24
2016	Alexander John Noble	PGSupt	Southern Cross 3
2016	Neville David John Daysh	PGSN	Victoria 4
2016	Tony Albert Jenkin	PGStdB	W F Massey 61
2016	Bruce Malcolm Oldcorn	PGStdB	Wairarapa 10
2016	Herbert William Raymond Carberry	PGSoj	Aurora 109
2016	Dennis John King	G Reg	Paritutu 5
2015	Nigel Mathew Petrie	PGSupt	Heretaunga 38
2014	James William Franklyn	PGSupt	Whangarei 27
2014	Allan Edward Wilkins	PGStdB	Tutanekai-Hinemoa 92
2014	Stanley William Potter	PGStdB	McVilly 85
2013	Herbert Eoin Wimsett	SGR	Wellington 62
2013	Gary Norris Kerkin	PGLec	Piako 48
2012	Alan Peter Thomson	PGSwdB	Waterloo-Russell 2
	Paul Schreiber	E Comp	St Augustine 1

Year	Name	Rank	Chapter
	Anthony Thomas Waters	PGSupt	Shirley 86
	Walter Raymond Johnson	PZ	Te Awamutu 88
2011	James Laurence Clark	PZ	Kawatiri 21
	Hans Ernst Kracke	PGSoj	Auckland Ellerslie 9
2010	Roy Martin	PGSwdB	St Augustine 1
	James Alfred Bennett	PGSwdB	Waitaki Kilwinning 8
	John Dudley Breton	PGStdB	Wanganui 23
2009	Brian Robert Purvis	PZ	Bay of Plenty 57
	Selwyn Hector Collins	PZ	Rotorua 44
	Andrew Cecil Kay	Comp	Te Awamutu 88
	Geoffrey John Davies	PGSuptWks	Wellington 62
	George Slater Ross	GSupt	Māori 28
2008	William Thomas Hone	DGZ	Carlyle 74
	Alexander Thomas Ross	PZ	Brooklyn 24
	William James Gallagher	PGSwdB	Rose & Thistle 35
	Douglas Hull	PGSwdB	Timaru 15
*	Horace Kay Taylor	SGR	Rotorua 44
	Eric Leslie Johnston	PGStdB	Te Awamutu 88
	Douglas David Woolley	PZ	Waikato 22
	Russell Henry Bull	PZ	Crown 56
	Brodie Stilton Goodall	PZ	Victory 12
	Jens Larsen	E Comp	Unanimity 106
	Raymond Ernest Harrison	PZ	Auckland 9
2007	Clifford Alan Miller	PZ	Karangahape 69
2006	Samuel Morris	PZ	Russell 51
*	Samuel David Robinson	PZ	Shirley 86
2005	Mervyn James List	PZ	Timaru 15
	Ian Thomas McCone	PGStdB	Timaru 15
	Russell David Stocker	PZ	Timaru 15
	Ronald Fayle	PZ	Tutanekai-Hinemoa 92
	Alexander Beacom Ross Weir	PZ	Aurora 109
	Barry Leicester Jowett	PDGZ	Tokoroa 102
2004	Len Arthur Moys	Comp	Heretaunga 38
	John Christopher Williamson	PZ	Tutanekai-Hinemoa 92
	Barry John Parkinson	Comp	Karangahape 69
	James Desmond Barry	VE Comp	W F Massey 61
	Ronald Ernest Purcell	PGSwdB	Whangarei 27
2003	Bruce Madsen Ries	PGSwdB	Bay of Islands 65
	Stanley Edward Myddleton	PGSN	Ara 53
	Vere Lachlan Thomas Price	Comp	Unanimity Papakura 106

Year	Name	Rank	Chapter
	Frank Ernest Fielder	Comp	Waitemata 72
	Carlos Francis Chandler	PZ	Prince of Wales 31
	Noel Anthony Murray	PGStdB	Timaru 15
	Herbert John Buck	SGR	Russell 51
	Thomas Jack	Comp	Whetu Kairangi 60
	John Frederick Kilpatrick	Comp	Aurora 109
	John Michael Walter Bray	Comp	Bedford 39
	William Maxwell Day	PGSN	Carlyle 74
	Roland Robertson	Comp	Huiroa 47
	Rosstan Scoular Clarke	PZ	Carlyle 74
	Lindsay Fletcher Hall	PGSoj	Oroua 49
2002	Arthur Noel French	PDGZ	Auckland 9

\* = duplications

## Reports

The following reports were taken as read. Any additional comments made during the Business Session are noted below.

### First Grand Principal (ME Comp Ken Burt)

With the first half of my tenure as First Grand Principal nearly complete I have been heartened by the camaraderie amongst the companions, the cordiality shown to me, and the conviviality in refectory.

Visiting Chapters here in New Zealand and attending convocations and installations in Australia have reinforced the view that all orders in Freemasonry have suffered a drop in membership over several decades, and we must collectively work to turn the tide. In recent times we are seeing an upsurge in joining members for our Chapters but this is sufficient only to replace those leaving. We must always bear in mind that our membership comes from craft masons, and therefore, we have a responsibility to ensure our Craft lodges also benefit from new members.

Retention of members in our Chapters is as important as building membership by gaining new members. We should ask ourselves why our Companions are not attending? Why are they leaving? Can we help in any way to get them to meetings?

I would like to encourage those senior members in a Chapter to step back from doing the work and mentor the newer or younger members. If we don't encourage, then maybe they feel they have no reason to attend. The education booklets introduced by ME Comp Dennis Waller in his tenure are an important tool to educate and assist new Companions to understand the degrees of Royal Arch and includes one to assist in mentoring. These are obtainable from Grand Scribe Ezra and should be presented at the appropriate time.

The new ritual book for the Mark Master, Excellent Master, and Royal Arch degrees and released early in 2025 is the authorised and only ritual book that should be used for the degree ceremonies. There are a few changes, including the introduction of the Excellent Master regalia, as well as enhanced rubric, that will benefit the ceremonies.

A new ritual book covering the Installation ceremonies of the Principals and Officers for a Royal Arch Chapter and for the Worshipful Mark Master (WMM) and Officers of a Mark Lodge was finalised and printed in December 2025. This is to be distributed by Grand Superintendents to any Grand Chapter Officer or Chapter Principal taking part in an Installation ceremony. Again, this is the only authorised version to be used and is the first reprint since 1998. This new version contains a full ceremony for installation of the WMM and Officers and its use is to be encouraged.

The Ritual Committee is currently working through the Cryptic Council degrees and this will be followed by the Royal Ark Mariner and Red Cross of Babylon degrees.

Future succession planning for Officers within a Chapter is important in order that Principals get a good grounding and education for the operation and management of a Chapter. A chart has been prepared and is available to assist chapters in understanding responsibilities of the chapter officers and how each office has corresponding duties in the Excellent Master and Mark Master degrees. This is also available from Grand Scribe Ezra and will be provided to each Grand Superintendent.

It is also necessary for Grand Superintendents to consider succession planning of Grand Chapter Officers within their District. This is becoming more essential as numbers of qualified Companions reduce.

In late June 2025 I attended the consecration of The Masonic Order of Athelstan, a new order in Freemasonry in New Zealand. At the meeting a document was signed by me on behalf of the Supreme Grand Royal Arch Chapter of New Zealand recognising the Order. This was agreed to by Management Council due mainly to the fact that to, become and retain membership in the new order, a person must be a contributing member of a Craft lodge and a Royal Arch Chapter.

It was with a great deal of pleasure that on a recent visit in November to Mt Maunganui RAC No 103 I was able to present VE Comp John Lever PGStdB, with a First Grand Principal's Award along with a certificate. John's wife Janet was in attendance following the meeting, much to his surprise, and she was also presented with a Certificate of Appreciation for the work she has done, behind the scenes, over the years. Details of John's service and that of his wife Janet are detailed in the November issue of *Freemasons* magazine.

In October 2025, following on from a visit to St Andrew RAC No 90 for its Installation in Invercargill, I attended the Grand Installation of MW Bro Paul Chappel as Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of New Zealand (GLNZ). I was encouraged to hear in his address that he also talked about membership retention and education. In December 2025, I attended a meeting at GLNZ where the wearing of breast jewels was discussed and confirmed that the wearing of the Royal Arch breast jewel in a Craft lodge is permitted. I also had a private meeting with

the Grand Master where we canvassed a number of subjects of mutual concern. I hope to report further on this at a later date.

I would like to thank the following.

- The other Grand Principals (RE Comp Greg Bennett, RE Comp Ian Plummer, and RE Comp Mike Downey) have given me great support and worked tirelessly in their divisions. Their assistance, and input have been of great help.
- ME Comp Dennis Waller, Chairman of the Management Council, has been of great support.
- Our Trustees, Grand Registrar, Grand Treasurer, and members of our scholarship committees have done a great job behind the scenes.
- Special thanks to RE Comp David Ryan, our Grand Scribe Ezra, who works tirelessly behind the scenes keeping us all on track. He often has a thankless task and also is responsible for making sure Chapters get their reports and returns in.
- Grand Lodge has provided its support behind the scenes in areas such as providing us the opportunity to contribute regularly to the red pages in the *Freemasons* magazine.

A special thanks to Olwyn, for her encouragement, support, and advice.

### **Depute First Grand Principal (RE Comp Greg Bennett)**

As I reach the midway point of my second term as Divisional Principal it's a good time to reflect on what's happened so far this year. There have been highlights and some low moments as well, so I'll start with the highlights. A lot of Chapters are getting new candidates and, in fact, some are doing double degree workings to try and keep up as well as taking their candidates to neighbouring Chapters to help get them through the degrees. While personally I don't like double degrees there is some merit in doing a double rather than an emergency meeting because Companions travel to assist in delivering the working and it does cut down on the mileage. Otaihape Chapter tried a different approach and did two Excellent Master degrees one after the other on the same night and that proved to be very successful. The challenge now is not only to continue the momentum but to retain the new Companions in Royal Arch Masonry so that they can move through the chairs and be the future.

I have attended as many Installations as I could fit in this last year as well as Mark Master degrees and, with the First Grand Principal living in the Division, if I wasn't there he was, so Grand Chapter was represented. I also attended a Grand Convocation in Australia with the First Grand Principal and we were well received and renewed friendships from previous meetings.

On a sadder note we lost RE Comp Nigel Petrie suddenly, a very active Mason who left a large gap in the knowledge base in Hawkes Bay. We also lost RE Comp Colin Johnson who had been a stalwart in Royal Arch for many years and ME Comp Norman Richardson, a true gentleman who epitomised what Freemasonry is all about with kind words and a way of imparting knowledge that didn't offend even when he was correcting something that hadn't gone quite right.

I have continued to be supported by Jocelyn who has made dinners for meetings and cups of tea for visitors. Without her backing I would not have been able to do what I have done this past year. I'm confident that Royal Arch Freemasonry is in good heart and, with some of the initiatives put in place by Grand Lodge, we will see an increase in the number of Freemasons eligible to join the Royal Arch. I have also had unwavering support from the Grand Chapter officers in my Division who have done a sterling job and, whenever I have asked for assistance, it has been freely given.

### **Second Grand Principal – Southern Division (RE Comp Ian Plummer)**

The first year of my two-year appointment has almost gone and it has been an interesting year with a great deal of learning going on. The issue of the new ritual books has been well received in most areas of the south. Some have been tardier than others, but all should now be using the new issue.

I have been able to visit all the Districts in my Division and have been well received, which I have appreciated. The Division has been visited by the First Grand Principal on two occasions, and this has been much appreciated.

All Chapters have reported candidates with some more than others but it does indicate an increasing interest in the Royal Arch. However, as usual, it is not just getting candidates and inducting them but keeping them and to this end we must make sure that they are mentored by knowledgeable and enthusiastic members. We must also ensure that we do not just leave them to sit on the bench so to speak but to get them involved in the ceremonies and give them meaningful work.

I am looking forward to the Convocation in Christchurch in March and hope to see many Companions from the South Island present and taking part in the programme. If Companions don't want to attend these Convocations I wonder why do they allow themselves to be nominated for Grand Chapter offices when they have no intention of carrying out their obligations.

I thank Grand Scribe Ezra, RE Comp David Ryan, for his prompt attention to all matters and to the First Grand Principal, ME Comp Ken Burt, for his availability when necessary. The Zoom sessions of the Management Council have reduced the necessity for extra travel and the meetings have been enjoyable.

Finally, I wish to thank every Companion in the Division who has made my journey easier and I assure you all that I will continue to carry out my duties with enthusiasm and zeal as I hope I have in this last year.

### **Third Grand Principal – Northern Division (RE Comp Mike Downey)**

Greetings, Companions all

As I conclude my first year as Third Grand Principal, I can truly say I have thoroughly enjoyed the role. I want to express my sincere gratitude to those Companions who encouraged and supported me in applying.

Although my professional commitments initially caused some reservations regarding travel outside of Auckland, I am pleased to report that I have completed four visits to Whangarei and one to Hamilton this year. Looking toward to 2026, I intend to make the Hauraki District a priority. In the meantime, I offer my immense thanks to RE Comp David Craddock PDGZ, for continuing to visit Hauraki on my behalf. I deeply value his wisdom (though please don't tell him I said so!).

This year marked the merger of the Northland and Auckland Districts. I am pleased to note that the transition is progressing well, fuelled by a collective desire to succeed. While some administrative details are still being refined, operations are generally running smoothly. Notably, an Auckland team led by GDC VE Gavin Deevy travelled north to assist with several Installation ceremonies.

A particular highlight of my year was attending Bay of Islands Cryptic Council No 65, where we saw four sitting Thrice Illustrious Masters in attendance representing two different constitutions.

In an effort to stimulate growth, Kaipara-Mahurangi Royal Arch Chapter No 80 and Kaipara Cryptic Council No 80 relocated from Warkworth to Orewa. Under the leadership of an energetic and dedicated First Principal, they are working hard to grow Freemasonry in the region. To accommodate members traveling long distances, they have successfully transitioned their meetings to Saturday afternoons.

Overall, the Chapters and Councils across the Northland/Auckland and Hauraki Districts remain stable. Most are active with degree work, some even performing multiple degrees, and it has been heartening to see well filled rosters during Installation ceremonies despite smaller memberships in certain areas.

In a well deserved ceremony, VE Comp John Lever was recently honoured with the First Grand Principal's Award, presented personally by the First Grand Principal. The occasion included a special surprise for John's wife, Janet, who received an appreciation certificate for her dedicated support of both John and the Hauraki District. To make the milestone even more memorable, the presentation was kept a complete secret until the moment it took place within John's own Chapter.

Finally, I wish to thank everyone who has welcomed me into their Chapters and Councils. The warmth and friendship you have extended to me this year have been truly overwhelming.

## **Chairman of Management Council (ME Comp Dennis Waller)**

It gives me great pleasure to be able to present my report for the past year.

At the Grand Installation held in Palmerston North in March 2024, I had the pleasure of installing my successor, ME Comp Ken Burt, into the chair of First Principal. The Installation was well attended, with 121 Companions in attendance and 50 partners and wives. The Grand Master was represented by RW Bro Mick Turner, who was supported by Grand Secretary RW Bro Duane Williams.

The organising committee was led by RE Comp Greg Bennett, Depute First Grand Principal who, ably assisted by his committee, did a great job. Thanks to all of them. The weekend went well and was enjoyed by all.

Also installed was RE Comp Greg Bennett as Depute First Grand Principal and RE Comp Ian Plummer and RE Comp Mike Downey as Second and Third Grand Principals, as well as the team of Grand Chapter officers for the Central District.

I would like to congratulate Ken and his team for a great job in promoting and managing our Order over the last year. In particular thanks go to RE Comp David Ryan for his work as our Grand Scribe Ezra. He has put in a huge amount of work and his attention to detail and ensuring matters are done on time has been a of great benefit to the Order. It is a great credit to him.

While these Companions are the face of the order, behind the scenes RE Comp Paul Sargison, Grand Treasurer, and RE Comp jd Dallas, Grand Registrar, have both made significant contributions with their specialist knowledge. Thanks also to the members of the Jubilee Memorial Scholarship Council and Centennial Fund Committee who have made sure our contributions to their funds are well applied. Their reports follow. Companions, I would like to gently remind you that these committees rely on your contributions. They do have funds invested, which earn a small return, but I urge you to be generous when you have the opportunity to make a donation. This will enable the committees in turn be generous with their grants.

As we have a 30 June financial and reporting year, up-to-date membership numbers are not available. However, based on the reports from the Grand Principals and Chapter meeting reports, we believe numbers are steady or perhaps slightly up. While we would like to see more members, by holding numbers, we are in fact increasing as a percentage of Craft members which is a welcome sign. I urge you all to actively think about who in your Lodge could benefit from joining. If you need assistance, there are brochures and cards available to help, or talk to your Chapter First Principal or District Grand Superintendent.

In November interviews were carried out by Zoom for the four Grand Principals to be invested in 2027. The selection committee consisted of myself, ME Comp Ken Burt GZ, ME Comp Ron Lane PGZ, and an independent, non-voting member from Freemasons New Zealand, RW Bro John Lukascwicz Past Div GM. I thank them for their assistance. The

committee recommends the following for election by Companions at the 2026 Business Session:

- GZ: RE Comp Greg Bennett DGZ
- DGZ: VE Comp Neville Hall GPA GSwdB
- GH: VE Comp Doug McNab PGSwdB
- GJ: VE Comp Frank Bottrill PGSwdB

Each brings a wealth of experience and enthusiasm to their roles, and I recommend them to you.

It has been a great pleasure to serve as your Chair of Management Council over the last year, and I look forward to the next year with optimism for the future of our order.

### **Grand Treasurer (RE Comp Paul Sargison)**

Most Excellent and Companions, it is my pleasure to present the Grand Chapter, Jubilee Memorial Scholarship Fund, and Centennial Award Fund financial statements for the year ended, and as at the 30 June 2025. The accounts have been reviewed by Excellent Companion Warren Cant, whose unqualified review reports are attached.

### **Grand Chapter**

There was an operating surplus for the 2025 year of \$11,772 compared with a budgeted surplus of \$1,352. The main areas where savings/gains were achieved were:

- Management Council meetings \$3,370
- certificates and rituals \$6,254
- website and app \$5,564
- interest received \$6,213 higher than budget.

These were somewhat offset by the following increased expenditure/revenue losses:

- Convocation 2025 \$10,968
- postage \$1,578, largely related to ritual sales
- travel for Grand Chapter officers \$1,390.

Referring to the balance sheet, Accumulated Funds have increased by \$11,772 to \$219,778 as a result of the surplus for the year.

### **Budget for 2027**

The 2027 budget shows a projected surplus for the year of \$4,660, dependent to some extent on future interest rates. It is recommended that the annual administration fee remain at \$52 per member.

RE Comp Sargison moved and RE Comp Bennett seconded that the administration fee per member be set at \$52 for the 2026/27 year.

Carried

### **Jubilee Memorial Scholarship Fund**

The 2025 accounts disclose a surplus of \$54,094, which compares with a surplus of only \$17,530 from the previous year. This increase was largely due to the increase in the value of investment assets, being \$19,019 for the year, compared with the prior year's decrease of \$17,117. Scholarships totalling \$28,500 were paid during the year.

Members' contributions decreased by \$1,947 compared with the previous year. Members' contributions for the last five years have been:

2025	\$9,378
2024	\$11,325
2023	\$9,162
2022	\$5,781
2021	\$9,924

Accumulated Funds at \$649,263 show an increase of \$25,593 for the year, an effective annual rate of 4.1%. The funds available for grants at the close of the 2025 year amounted to \$25,017, a decrease of \$5,248 over the year.

### **Centennial Award Fund**

The 2025 accounts disclose a surplus of \$54,879, compared with the surplus of \$1,100 in the 2024 year. The major contribution was the increase in the value of investments held of \$29,899, compared with a decrease of \$20,876 in the previous year. Grants paid during the year totalled \$4,972.

The funds available for future grant payments amount to \$54,559 at the end of the 2025 financial year, an increase of \$7,517 from the previous year. There are no new commitments for grants at the time of preparing this report.

Total capital funds at balance date were \$581,661, an increase of \$49,907 over the year, an effective annual rate of 9.4%.

### **Accounts reviewer**





In accordance with Rule 5.3 (c) of the Book of Constitution and Laws, RE Comp Paul Sargison moved and VE Comp Geoff Pary seconded the appointment of Excellent Companion Warren Cant as Reviewer for the 2026/27 financial year.

Carried

The following financial statements and reviewer's reports form part of the Grand Treasurer's report.

**SUPREME GRAND ROYAL ARCH CHAPTER of NEW ZEALAND  
BUDGET**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2027**

	2025 <i>Actual</i>	2026 <i>Budget</i>	2027 <i>Budget</i>
<b>INCOME</b>			
Chapter Levies	40,164	39,936	39,260
Administration Recovery	3,000	3,000	3,000
Certificates and Rituals	10,634	5,000	5,000
Interest	11,213	8,000	8,000
Patents of Office	1,125	1,000	900
Dormant Chapters Funds	487	-	-
Sale of Other Items	1,460	1,000	1,000
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<u>68,083</u>	<u>57,936</u>	<u>57,160</u>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>			
Allowance GZ	10,000	10,000	10,000
Convocation	15,968	5,000	7,000
Cooper Tour	2,000	-	-
Cost of Goods for Sale	2,165	2,000	2,000
Equipment and Repairs	-	-	-
GZ/GSE Selection	-	-	-
Honorarium Grand Scribe Ezra	15,000	15,000	15,000
Honorarium Grand Treasurer	2,000	2,000	2,000
Jewels	1,444	1,000	1,000
Meetings Management Council	630	2,000	1,000
Postage	2,578	2,500	3,000
Printing	311	2,000	2,000
Regalia Expenses	200	1,000	1,000
Reviewer	500	500	500
Stationery	309	500	500
Sundry	29	500	500
Taxation	1,072	1,000	1,000
Travel GC Officers	1,667	1,000	2,000
Travel Heads of Orders	-	4,000	3,000
Web Site and App.	437	1,500	1,000
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<u>56,310</u>	<u>51,500</u>	<u>52,500</u>
<b>OPERATING BUDGET SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)</b>	<u>\$11,773</u>	<u>\$6,436</u>	<u>\$4,660</u>
<b>RECOVERIES</b>			
Members for Billing Date (12 mths prior)	776	768	755 
Membership Levies Billed/to Bill	40,352 	39,936 	39,260 
Levy Amount	52	52	52
Net Expenses per Member	50	44	46
<b>SURPLUS/(DEFICIT) PER MEMBER</b>	<u>\$2</u>	<u>\$8</u>	<u>\$6</u>

**SUPREME GRAND ROYAL ARCH CHAPTER OF NEW ZEALAND  
INDEPENDENT REVIEWER'S REPORT  
For the year ended 30<sup>th</sup> June 2025**

**Report on the Financial Statements**

I have reviewed the information supplied to me so far as it relates to the financial statements attached to this opinion.

In my opinion the financial statements for the year ended 30th June 2025 present a true and fair view of the Chapter's financial position at that date.

*W G Cant*

W G Cant  
Auckland  
12 August 2025

## SUPREME GRAND ROYAL ARCH CHAPTER of NEW ZEALAND

### FINANCIAL POSITION

As at 30th June 2025

	This Year	Last Year	Variance
<b>ASSETS</b>			
Heartland Bank Savings Accounts	14,533	9,967	4,565
Heartland Bank Term Deposit	70,000	70,000	-
Westpac Bank Transaction Account	5,423	1,515	
Westpac Bank Saver Account	27,665	22,877	4,787
Westpac Bank Term Deposit	100,000	100,000	-
Silver Trowel	280	-	280
<i>TOTAL CASH</i>	217,901	204,360	9,633
Chapter Accounts in Arrears	-	796	( 796)
Expenses Paid In Advance	723	2,000	( 1,277)
Stock on Hand	3,372	4,336	( 964)
<i>TOTAL ASSETS</i>	221,996	211,492	10,504
<b>LIABILITIES</b>			
Creditors	1,072	2,999	1,926
Dormant Chapters Funds Held for 5 Years	-	487	487
Jubilee Memorial Scholarship Fund	842	-	
Transition Levies	304	-	
<i>TOTAL LIABILITIES</i>	2,218	3,485	2,413
<b>NET ASSETS</b>	\$ 219,778	\$ 208,007	\$ 11,771
<i>Represented By</i>			
<b>ACCUMULATED FUNDS</b>			
Balance at Start	208,007	192,665	15,341
Surplus for Year	11,772	15,341	- 3,569
<i>BALANCE AT END</i>	219,778	208,007	11,772
<b>TOTAL EQUITY</b>	\$ 219,778	\$ 208,007	\$ 11,772

**PERFORMANCE REPORT**  
**For The Year Ended 30th June 2025**

	This Year	Last Year	Variance
<b>INCOME</b>			
Chapter Levies	40,164	40,128	36
Administration Recovery	3,000	3,000	-
Certificates and Rituals	10,634	5,480	5,154
Dormant Chapters Funds	487	-	487
Interest	11,213	10,456	757
Patents of Office	1,125	900	225
Sale of Goods	1,460	1,262	198
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<u>68,083</u>	<u>61,225</u>	<u>6,857</u>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>			
Allowance GZ	10,000	10,000	-
Convocation	15,968	4,469	( 11,499)
Cooper Tour	2,000		
Cost of Goods for Sale	2,165	2,211	47
Honorarium GSE	15,000	15,000	-
Honorarium Grand Treasurer	2,000	2,000	-
Jewels	1,444	1,138	( 306)
Meetings Management Council	630	277	( 353)
Postage	2,578	1,344	( 1,234)
Printing	311	2,623	2,311
Regalia Expenses	200	712	512
Reviewer	500	500	-
Stationery	309	206	( 103)
Sundry	29	360	331
Taxation	1,072	1,098	26
Travel Grand Chapter Officers	1,667		
Travel Heads of Orders	-	3,848	3,848
Web Site and Mobile Application	437	98	( 339)
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<u>56,311</u>	<u>45,884</u>	<u>( 6,759)</u>
<b>OPERATING SURPLUS</b>	<u>\$ 11,772</u>	<u>\$ 15,341</u>	<u>-\$ 3,569</u>

**THE ROYAL ARCH JUBILEE MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND  
INDEPENDENT REVIEWER'S REPORT  
For the year ended 30<sup>th</sup> June 2025**

**Report on the Financial Statements**

I have reviewed the information supplied to me so far as it relates to the financial statements attached to this opinion.

In my opinion the financial statements for the year ended 30th June 2025 present a true and fair view of the Fund's financial position at that date.

*W G Cant*

W G Cant  
Auckland  
12 August 2025

**SUPREME GRAND ROYAL ARCH CHAPTER OF NEW ZEALAND  
THE ROYAL ARCH JUBILEE MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND**

**PERFORMANCE REPORT  
For the Year Ended 30th June 2025**

	This Year	Last Year
<b>INCOME</b>	\$	\$
Collections From Members	9,378	11,325
Dividends	24,889	22,804
Interest	2,860	2,568
	<u>37,126</u>	<u>36,697</u>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>		
Administration Contribution	2,000	2,000
Sundry Expenses	51	51
	<u>2,051</u>	<u>2,051</u>
<b>OPERATING SURPLUS</b>	35,075	34,646
Investments Valuation Change	19,019	(17,117)
<b>NET (DEFICIT)/SURPLUS</b>	<u>\$ 54,094</u>	<u>\$ 17,530</u>
<b>ALLOCATED TO</b>		
Jubilee Memorial Capital	11,823	10,635
Jubilee Memorial Scholarship Fund	23,252	24,011
Valuation Reserve	19,019	(17,117)
	<u>\$ 54,094</u>	<u>\$ 17,530</u>

**SUPREME GRAND ROYAL ARCH CHAPTER OF NEW ZEALAND  
THE ROYAL ARCH JUBILEE MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND**

**FINANCIAL POSITION  
For the Year Ended 30th June 2025**

	This Year	Last Year
<b>ASSETS</b>	\$	\$
Sundry Debtor	28	-
Westpac Cheque Account	455	668
Westpac Bonus Saver	2,636	11,421
JB Were Cash Accounts	21,910	10,971
JB Were Investments	624,235	600,610
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<u>\$ 649,263</u>	<u>\$ 623,670</u>
<b>Represented By</b>		
<b>JUBILEE MEMORIAL CAPITAL</b>		
Opening Balance	600,233	589,598
Transfer from Income Account	11,823	10,635
	<u>612,056</u>	<u>600,233</u>
<b>VALUATION RESERVE</b>		
Opening Balance	(6,828)	10,289
Transfer from Income Account	19,019	(17,117)
	<u>12,191</u>	<u>(6,828)</u>
<b>JUBILEE MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND</b>		
Opening Balance	30,265	34,754
Returned Grant	-	5,000
Transfer from Income Account	23,252	24,011
	<u>53,517</u>	<u>63,765</u>
Less Grants This Year	(28,500)	33,500
	<u>25,017</u>	<u>30,265</u>
<b>TOTAL EQUITY</b>	<u>\$ 649,263</u>	<u>\$ 623,670</u>

**THE ROYAL ARCH MASONIC CENTENNIAL AWARD FUND  
INDEPENDENT REVIEWER'S REPORT  
For the year ended 30<sup>th</sup> June 2025**

**Report on the Financial Statements**

I have reviewed the information supplied to me so far as it relates to the financial statements attached to this opinion.

In my opinion the financial statements for the year ended 30th June 2025 present a true and fair view of the Fund's financial position at that date.

*W G Cant*

W G Cant  
Auckland  
12 August 2025

**SUPREME GRAND ROYAL ARCH CHAPTER OF NEW ZEALAND  
THE ROYAL ARCH MASONIC CENTENNIAL AWARD FUND**

**PERFORMANCE REPORT  
For the Year Ended 30th June 2025**

	This Year	Last Year
<b>INCOME</b>		
Collections From Members	577	413
Interest	6,467	6,407
Dividends	18,987	16,996
	<u>26,031</u>	<u>23,816</u>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>		
Administration Contribution	1,000	1,000
Awardee Travel	-	789
Sundry Expenses	51	51
	<u>1,051</u>	<u>1,840</u>
<b>OPERATING SURPLUS</b>	24,980	21,976
Investments Valuation Change	29,899	(20,876)
<b>NET (DEFICIT)/SURPLUS</b>	<u>\$ 54,879</u>	<u>\$ 1,100</u>
<b>ALLOCATED TO</b>		
Award Fund	12,490	10,988
Capital Fund	12,490	10,988
Valuation Reserve	29,899	(20,876)
	<u>\$ 54,879</u>	<u>\$ 1,100</u>

**SUPREME GRAND ROYAL ARCH CHAPTER OF NEW ZEALAND  
THE ROYAL ARCH MASONIC CENTENNIAL AWARD FUND**

**FINANCIAL POSITION  
For the Year Ended 30th June 2025**

	This Year	Last Year
<b>ASSETS</b>		
Westpac Cheque Account	8,146	1,584
Westpac Saver	-	6,004
Westpac Term Deposit	100,000	100,000
JB Were Cash Account	29,723	17,171
JB Were Investments	<u>443,792</u>	<u>406,994</u>
	581,661	531,754
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u><u>\$ 581,661</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 531,754</u></u>
 <b>REPRESENTED BY:</b>		
 <b>CAPITAL FUND</b>		
Opening Balance	447,626	436,638
Transfer from Income Account	<u>12,490</u>	<u>10,988</u>
	460,116	447,626
<b>VALUATION RESERVE</b>		
Opening Balance	37,087	57,963
Transfer from Income Account	<u>29,899</u>	<u>(20,876)</u>
	66,986	37,087
<b>AWARD FUND</b>		
Opening Balance	47,042	36,054
Transfer from Income Account	12,490	10,988
Less Grants Made	<u>(4,972)</u>	<u>-</u>
	54,559	47,042
<b>TOTAL EQUITY</b>	<u><u>\$ 581,661</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 531,754</u></u>

## Grand Scribe Ezra (RE Comp David Ryan)

### General comment

It has again been a pleasure during the year dealing with Scribes, Recorders, and many others, and I feel that I have got to know many of you well through phone calls or by e-mail. I am pleased that most Chapters and Councils have been sending in their summonses and meeting minutes and Installation returns and paying their capitation levies and Jubilee Memorial Scholarship contributions when due, although it has been frustrating that some Chapters and Councils and, unfortunately, even some senior Grand Chapter officers have not been on top of the administrative/reporting side of their role.

### Resources

I have been particularly pleased that we were able to issue a new edition of the Royal Arch ritual book during the year. That was a best seller with hundreds of copies sold. The first print sold out and we had to get a reprint done. Likewise, there was good demand for our brochures: *Continuing the Journey*, *Mentor Programme*, *Guide to the Royal Arch*, and booklets for each of the three degrees. The new ritual book, along with the six booklets, are designed with the same look and, in my view, portray a very professional image and are an excellent resource for our members and potential members.

### Letters to Master Masons

Below are statistics on letters (or, more recently, e-mails) sent out to Master Masons along with the *Continuing the Journey* brochure. In line with our agreement with Grand Lodge we are able to write to Master Masons 12 months after they have done their Third Degree asking if they are interested in joining Royal Arch.

Period raised to the Third Degree	Total eligible	No longer member of Craft	Overseas address or address not known	Already joined Royal Arch	About to join/already in contact	Letters sent	Returned (gone – no address)
1 Jan – 31 Mar 2023	50	2	2	1		45	4
1 Apr – 30 Jun 2023	49		3	1	1	44	3
1 Jul – 30 Sep 2023	60	2	1	6		51	3
1 Oct – 31 Dec 2023	42	2		2	2	36	3
1 Jan – 31 Mar 2024	42	1	1	6	1	33	
1 Apr – 30 Jun 2024	64	2		6	1	55	1
1 Jul – 30 Sep 2024	64	7	1	3		53	
1 Oct – 31 Dec 2024	42	5		2		35	

I continue to have some doubts about the results that we achieve with these letters or e-mails as often it's a personal approach that works best. However, these letters or e-mails have certainly worked for some, so we will carry on in the meantime.

### Documentation of regalia

During the year I started a rainy-day project to document the specifications and photos for regalia for active and past Grand Chapter officers and for the various Chapter and Council degree workings and officers. What started off as a few hours here and there has transformed into a major undertaking with the very valuable support of RE Comp John MacDonald, Grand Lecturer in the Northern Division. John has thrown himself into this project and, at the time of writing, has produced draft documents that will prove to be an extremely valuable resource once finalised.

### Certificates

I encourage more Chapters and Councils to request certificates for their members. The cost is low (only \$10 per certificate, or \$25 for Royal Arch certificates – including postage). Below are figures on certificates issued since Convocation 2025 to the date of writing. For previous years the period was a full 12 months between Convocations.

<b>Certificate</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2025</b>
Mark Master	0	0	2	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0
Excellent Master	0	0	0	4	6	0	2	1	1	8	3
Royal Arch	37	42	52	49	29	18	30	25	39	26	53
Installed WMM	16	15	15	14	19	2	13	11	9	10	7
J	31	31	33	32	36	11	20	25	22	23	25
H	29	26	34	32	34	10	19	23	19	32	24
Z	32	31	32	33	39	14	25	25	24	26	27
Red Cross	1	20	6	7	12	5	0	11	27	0	19
Most Excellent Chief	0	9	3	2	0	1	5	3	14	2	14
Ark Mariner	17	15	14	6	19	7	11	11	20	15	18
Worshipful Commander Noah	7	4	10	3	7	5	8	2	12	4	5
Cryptic Council	5	10	29	15	14	6	6	17	10	15	11
Thrice Illustrious Master	7	7	24	9	17	2	6	9	13	7	8
Silver Trowel	0	0	24	32	21	9	7	8	0	19	3
Grand Chapter officers	19	30	14	21	21	25	18	21	14	17	20
Service/Appreciation	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	5	1
First Grand Principal's Award	1	8	6	3	2	0	0	3	1	1	1
Order of Meritorious Service	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0
Jubilee Memorial Scholarship	14	16	14	15	9	0	9	8	3	3	2
Other	5	2	16	4	3	4	2	0	0	0	2
<b>Total certificates from 1 March</b>	<b>221</b>	<b>266</b>	<b>328</b>	<b>281</b>	<b>288</b>	<b>119</b>	<b>182</b>	<b>204</b>	<b>230</b>	<b>215</b>	<b>243</b>

### Jewels

I now have a system whereby I can identify those who are entitled to receive a jewel for their 40 years' service but I can't do the same for 5-year bars. Chapters ought to be able to

check their records fairly easily. I also encourage Chapters and Councils to propose members for awards (Order of Meritorious Service or First Grand Principal's Award) or for a Certificate of Appreciation. These certificates are also available for non-Masons and could be proposed, for example, for a member's partner/ who has helped behind the scenes.

## Convocations

Management Council had a good discussion following Convocation 2025 about the organisation of Convocations and sometimes the disconnect between the local organising team and "head office" in terms of who does what and how any profit or loss is shared. Management Council decided that, in future, Grand Scribe Ezra will take on a more prominent organisational role and there will be clear financial arrangements (see the proposed rule changes below). This new arrangement has been brought in for Convocation 2026 in Christchurch.

At the time of writing, a venue in central Wellington has been pencilled in for Convocation 2027, although there is still the option of holding Convocation 2027 in Palmerston North or Masterton. Management Council will make a decision shortly.

## Succession planning

My five-year role will come to an end at Convocation 2027 and the search will need to commence very soon for my successor.

## Membership

### Northern Division

	30 June 2025			30 June 2024		
	Member	Dual	Total	Member	Dual	Total
<b>Northland/Auckland District</b>						
Auckland No 9	24	0	24	25	0	25
Whangarei No 27	26	2	28	24	3	27
North Shore No 52	14	3	17	21	1	22
Ara No 53	39	0	39	38	0	38
William Ferguson Massey No 61	18	0	18	17	1	18
Karangahape No 69	19	0	19	22	0	22
Kaipara-Mahurangi No 80	13	4	17	8	4	12
Chapter of Peace No 98	23	0	23	24	0	24
Howick No 101	19	2	21	24	3	27
<b>Hauraki District</b>						
Ohinemuri No 17	10	4	14	13	3	16
Waikato No 22	12	2	14	12	2	14
Rotorua No 44	26	0	26	21	1	22
Piako No 48	18	2	20	18	2	20

	30 June 2025			30 June 2024		
	Member	Dual	Total	Member	Dual	Total
Bay of Plenty No 57	12	0	12	12	0	12
Te Awamutu No 88	14	0	14	14	0	14
Tawhiri No 97	15	0	15	14	0	14
Mt Maunganui No 103	24	0	24	24	0	24
<b>Northern Division</b> <b>2 Districts</b> <b>17 Chapters</b>	<b>326</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>345</b>	<b>331</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>351</b>

### Central Division

	30 June 2025			30 June 2024		
	Member	Dual	Total	Member	Dual	Total
<b>Hawkes Bay District</b>						
Victoria No 4	23	1	24	17	0	17
Heretaunga No 38	23	0	23	19	1	20
Bedford No 39	0	0	0	9	5	14
<b>Ruapehu/Taranaki District</b>						
Manawatu No 11	19	1	20	18	1	19
Wanganui No 23	19	0	19	19	0	19
Otaihape No 43	9	1	10	10	0	10
Carlyle No 74	11	0	11	8	0	8
<b>Wellington District</b>						
Waterloo-Russell No 2	16	0	16	16	0	16
Hutt-Wairarapa No 10	43	0	43	43	0	43
Brooklyn No 24	23	0	23	25	1	26
Wellington No 62	23	1	24	25	1	26
Horowhenua No 63	12	9	21	13	4	17
Tutanekai-Hinemoa No 92	18	0	18	21	0	21
<b>Central Division</b> <b>3 Districts</b> <b>12 Chapters</b>	<b>239</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>252</b>	<b>243</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>256</b>

### Southern Division

	30 June 2025			30 June 2024		
	Member	Dual	Total	Member	Dual	Total
<b>Nelson/Marlborough/Westland</b>						
Victory No 12	18	1	19	25	0	25
Marlborough No 14	19	0	19	16	0	16
Kawatiri No 21	17	0	17	17	0	17

<b>Canterbury District</b>						
St. Augustine No 1	19	1	20	24	2	26
Albert Edward No 6	6	5	11	6	5	11
Timaru No 15	23	0	23	24	0	24
Rose & Thistle No 35	20	0	20	20	0	20
Shirley No 86	15	2	17	16	3	19

<b>Otago/Southland District</b>						
Cromwell Coronation No 20	18	1	19	16	0	16
St Andrew No 90	30	0	30	26	0	26
<b>Southern Division 3 Districts 10 Chapters</b>	<b>185</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>195</b>	<b>190</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>200</b>
Chapter of Transition 110	5	0	5	4	0	4
<b>National</b>	<b>755</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>797</b>	<b>768</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>811</b>

During 2024/25 (excluding the Chapter of Transition and dual members who belong to more than one Chapter):

- 13 Chapters reported an increase in their membership
- 11 Chapters reported no change
- 15 Chapters reported a decrease (including one Chapter (Bedford) which closed)

In summary, as at 30 June, excluding dual members:

	Members		
	Total	Change from previous year	% change
2025	755	-24	-3.1%
2024	779 <sup>1</sup>	-12	-1.5%
2023	780 <sup>2</sup>	3	0.1%
2022	777 <sup>3</sup>	-57	-6.7%
2021	833 <sup>4</sup>	-69	-7.6%
2020	902	-37	-3.9%
2019	939	-45	-4.5%
2018	984	-112	-10.3%
2017	1086	-48	-4.2%
2016	1134	-78	-6.4%
2015	1212	-109	-8.3%
2014	1321	-64	-4.6%
2013	1385	-177	-11.3%
2012	1562		

<sup>1</sup> Adjusted from a reported 768 in previous year

<sup>2</sup> Adjusted from a reported 776 in previous year

<sup>3</sup> Adjusted from a reported 778 in previous year

<sup>4</sup> Adjusted from a reported 859 in previous year

The numbers have varied to some extent as I have encouraged Chapters to clean their membership lists and this has meant that some members who have not been seen for years have been deleted or “resigned” from Chapter lists while some Chapters are even finding that they have members of whom they were not aware! This explains in part why the numbers in the table above have been adjusted from previous years.

The numbers reported above are getting closer to the true number of “interested” members, ie those who pay their membership fees. However, that does not necessarily equate to active members as some Chapters with large-ish memberships still report that at time they don’t have enough members present to open a meeting.

At an overall level, the gradual decline in our membership is not as great as in previous years. However, the situation across the country is inconsistent. Some Chapters have a waiting list for new members or are having to hold emergency meetings or carry out double degree workings, while others are struggling to attract and retain members.

As in previous years, resignations are the largest group of lost members. Some of these are the result of Chapters cleaning their membership lists and removing what I like to refer to as “ghost” members. Other resignations are from older members who feel that they can no longer take part or come to meetings, while some resign as they are relocating to other parts of New Zealand or overseas.

Chapter membership as at 30 June 2025 (source Chapter annual returns and database records)

Chapter	30 Jun 24 Fee-paying Members	New Members	Joined or Affiliated	TOTAL GAIN	Deceased	Resigned	Struck Off	TOTAL LOSS	30 Jun 25 Fee-paying Members	Dual Members	Total 30v Jun 25
St Augustine	24	0	1	1	1	1	4	6	19	1	20
Waterloo-Russell	16	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	16	0	16
Victoria	22	1	1	2	0	1	0	1	23	1	24
Albert Edward	6	3	1	4	2	2	0	4	6	5	11
Auckland	25	1	0	1	0	1	1	2	24	0	24
Hutt-Wairarapa	43	1	1	2	0	1	1	2	43	0	43
Manawatu	18	1	1	2	1	0	0	1	19	1	20
Victory	26	1	0	1	1	8	0	9	18	1	19
Marlborough	16	2	2	4	1	0	0	1	19	0	19
Timaru	24	1	0	1	1	1	0	2	23	0	23
Ohinemuri	13	2	1	3	0	5	1	6	10	4	14
Cromwell Coronation	16	3	0	3	1	0	0	1	18	1	19
Kawatiri	17	2	0	2	1	1	0	2	17	0	17
Waikato	12	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	12	2	14
Wanganui	19	0	3	3	0	3	0	3	19	0	19
Brooklyn	26	0	0	0	1	2	0	3	23	0	23
Whangarei	25	3	0	3	1	1	0	2	26	2	28
Rose & Thistle	20	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	20	0	20
Heretaunga	21	1	2	3	1	0	0	1	23	0	23
Bedford	9	0	0	0	0	9	0	9	0	0	0
Otaihape	10	1	1	2	1	2	0	3	9	1	10

Chapter	30 Jun 24 Fee-paying Members	New Members	Joined or Affiliated	TOTAL GAIN	Deceased	Resigned	Struck Off	TOTAL LOSS	30 Jun 25 Fee-paying Members	Dual Members	Total 30v Jun 25
Rotorua	21	5	0	5	0	0	0	0	26	0	26
Piako	18	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	18	2	20
North Shore	21	4	0	4	1	10	0	11	14	3	17
Ara	38	4	0	4	1	1	1	3	39	0	39
Bay of Plenty	12	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	12	0	12
William F Massey	18	2	0	2	0	2	0	2	18	0	18
Wellington	25	0	0	0	0	1	1	2	23	1	24
Horowhenua	13	2	0	2	0	2	1	3	12	9	21
Karangahape	22	1	0	1	2	2	0	4	19	0	19
Carlyle	8	2	1	3	0	0	0	0	11	0	11
Kaipara-Mahurangi	9	0	7	7	1	2	0	3	13	4	17
Shirley	17	2	0	2	1	3	0	4	15	2	17
Te Awamutu	14	2	0	2	1	0	1	2	14	0	14
St Andrew	26	4	1	5	0	0	1	1	30	0	30
Tutanekai-Hinemoa	21	2	0	2	0	5	0	5	18	0	18
Tawhiri	14	1	1	2	1	0	0	1	15	0	15
Peace	24	1	0	1	0	2	0	2	23	0	23
Howick	22	0	1	1	0	4	0	4	19	2	21
Mt Maunganui	24	2	0	2	0	2	0	2	24	0	24
Transition	4	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	5	0	5
<b>Total</b>	<b>779</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>110</b>	<b>755</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>797</b>

**Council membership as at 30 June 2025** (source: Council annual returns and database records)

<b>Council</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>30 Jun 24</b>	<b>New</b>	<b>Joined</b>	<b>Deceased</b>	<b>Resigned</b>	<b>Stuck off</b>	<b>30 Jun 25</b>
St Augustine	1	13	0	0	0	1	0	12
Southern Cross	3	11	0	0	0	0	0	11
Manawatu	11	22	1	0	2	1	0	20
Victory	12	9	0	0	1	2	0	6
Marlborough	14	14	2	1	1	0	0	16
Timaru	15	18	0	1	0	0	0	19
Cromwell Coronation	20	11	0	0	0	0	0	11
Waikato	22	23	2	0	0	0	0	25
Heretaunga	38	32	0	0	1	1	0	30
Rotorua	44	23	2	0	0	0	0	25
Russell	51	38	0	0	1	6	0	31
North Shore	52	11	2	0	0	2	0	11
Ara	53	52	0	0	1	0	0	51
Bay of Islands	65	14	2	2	1	0	0	17
Mahurangi	80	10	0	0	1	2	0	7
Hutt Valley	109	14	0	1	0	3	0	12
<b>Total</b>		<b>315</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>304</b>
Silver Trowel	111	90	9	0	8	2	0	89

## Trustees of Grand Chapter (VE Comp Ray Burgess, Chair)

Trustees for the year to 30 June 2025: VE Comp R Burgess (Chair), ME Comp B Hebbard, RE Comp J Heron (until Convocation 2025), VE Comp A Cross (from Convocation 2025)

**The Royal Arch Masonic Centennial Award Fund:** Trustees' report on the financial performance of the Fund for the year ended 30 June 2025

Companions, the annual financial accounts have been prepared by our Grand Treasurer, Paul Sargison, reviewed by Warren Cant, and distributed to all Companions.

The financial accounts show a net surplus of \$54,879.00, which includes the portfolio valuation increase of \$29,899.00. Grants totalling \$4,972.00 were approved and made during the year. The portfolio value is recorded at \$473,515.00 which, together with the Westpac Term Deposit of \$100,000, gave an annualised return on investment on the net surplus of 9.5%.

The portfolio is actively managed by JB Were and comprises a mix of New Zealand equities and bonds. Usual market movements occurring during the past year naturally reflect on our portfolio value at any particular date. The present portfolio value (as at 19 December 2025) stands at \$510,142.

**The Royal Arch Jubilee Memorial Scholarship Fund:** Trustees' report on the financial performance of the Fund for the year ended 30 June 2025

Companions, the annual financial accounts have been prepared by our Grand Treasurer, Paul Sargison, and reviewed by Warren Cant, and distributed to all Companions.

The financial accounts show a net surplus of \$54,094, which includes the portfolio valuation increase of \$19,019. Grants totalling \$28,500.00 were approved and made during the year. The portfolio value is recorded at \$646,145.00 giving an annualised return on investment on the net surplus of 7.2%.

The portfolio is actively managed by JB Were and comprises a mix of listed New Zealand and Australian equities and bonds. Usual market movements occurring during the past year naturally reflect on our portfolio value at any particular date.

Companions' contributions were \$9,378.00, down \$1,947 on the previous year.

Contributions for the past five years have been:

2021	\$9,924
2022	\$5,781
2023	\$9,162
2024	\$11,325
2025	\$9,378

The present portfolio value as at 19 December 2025 stands at \$678,533.

As in previous years, may we again record our appreciation to Chapters/Councils and Companions for their support for the awards not only through their ongoing donations but also in identifying and supporting deserving students.

### **Jubilee Memorial Scholarship Council (RE Comp Alan Hart, Chair)**

#### **General comments**

Companions will recall that we now are restricted in the funds available for awards through the continual reduction in members and also the variation of the capitalisation of interest and dividends at 50%. We would ask that Management Council consider this impact especially in the light of the current reduction in interest rates now forecast to continue for some time.

The scholarship account itself received \$25,017 towards funds available for consideration of this year's grants and awarded \$24,500 in total.

#### **Consideration**

As with the past two last years, in view of the number of applications (16) as well as the vast range of supporting material received (some relevant, others less so), we used a template summarising each application in order that a consistent approach could be followed. We again needed to contact the relevant Grand Superintendent or a local contact to clarify some aspect of several applications which, while time-consuming, gives a greater understanding of the context of the application and student's situation.

One non-financial or scholastic aspect which Companions may be interested in was the rise of the "dreaded" AI. Even with these applications there was evidence that online templates had been used and we can but hope that students will appreciate how not personalising their applications can have a detrimental effect on our considerations.

The continuing change in how society now views or is involved in community work was outlined in a paper to the Research Lodge of Wellington #194 by a newer Mason, Bro Paul Sullivan, covering "*The Decline in the Third Place*" in part of which he also drew attention to an interesting publication "*Bowling Alone*". Both sources are well worth reading and thinking over. The impact which Bro Sullivan identified was evident in almost all applications. As RE Comp Johnston observed "*A bit concerned with some of the community service, much of it seemed to be within the schooling system. Not much gardening/shopping for the disabled/elderly. However, many of the aforementioned are fiercely proud and independent.*"

We felt it appropriate to exclude those applicants who had previously been supported while several applications were outside our ambit or were looking at higher levels of study. We do not feel that such informal criteria need to be embedded into the rules of the Fund as to do so could place a restriction on our successors on this Council which is not essential.

We again asked that the following be covered by the student, Chapter or Grand Superintendent:

- Why this student should be assisted?
- How any grant made will benefit them?
- How will that benefit the country/society?
- What will happen if we do not make the award to them?
- What is their real/full income and expenditures relative to their studies?
- If they are living away from the family home some indication of why might assist
- Any Masonic connection – not essential but an indicator.

As before we hope that merely raising these issues will encourage both the student and the Companions involved to see how best assistance can be given. The best solution may not necessarily be through fiscal support. Some students will clearly struggle in the uncaring tertiary environment while others will bloom as is always the case.

### 2025 awards

After our considerations the following were advised to Grand Scribe Ezra and in turn by him to Grand Superintendents. The associated payments are made separately by the Grand Treasurer, and we trust that suitable presentations of the certificates will be made locally as circumstances might best suit. We encourage Chapters/Councils to retain contact with the awardees and take an active interest in their studies.

First Name	Surname	District	Amount awarded
Allegra	Reid	Northland/Auckland	\$3,000
Danielle	D'Ath	Hauraki	\$3,000
Mila	Smith de Zeeuw	Hauraki	\$3,500
Oliver	Scott-Cowie	Wellington	\$3,000
Harry	Smart	Wellington	\$1,500
Raheem	Mir	Nelson/M/W	\$3,000
Hanne	Dirker	Canterbury	\$3,000
Madison	Tull	Canterbury	\$1,000
Poppy	Fraser-Brown	Otago/Southland	\$3,500
			<b>\$24,500</b>

### Feedback

As a committee we were delighted to receive feedback from several of the students we have been able to assist. The following extract from one is indicative of the outcomes and we encourage Companions to keep in touch with those they have put forward for these scholarships. Charity is not just about fiscal aspects.

*I feel incredibly grateful to have been selected as a recipient for this scholarship. This scholarship means a great deal to me, as it will help support my studies next year and ease some of the financial pressure that comes with continuing my education at university next year. I was not awarded any of the university scholarships from xxxx, which makes me even*

*more grateful to have been selected for this one. It means a lot to me and makes me even more excited for my future at university and what I will end up doing once I have a degree. I am committed to making the most of this opportunity and continuing to work hard next year at xxxx toward my goals and getting a degree in Forensic Analytical Science. Thank you again for your generosity and support.*

And an extract from a previous student:

*I am writing to once again express my sincere gratitude for your generous support through the Jubilee Memorial Scholarship and to share an update on my studies and progress. I am pleased to share that I successfully completed my first-semester course, Arts & Design, which I thoroughly enjoyed. The course helped me refine my crafting skills and develop a sharper eye for composition, colour, and lighting, valuable skills to hone as I progress toward architecture. I also presented an in-depth study of an art movement, strengthening my research abilities and understanding of design principles.*

*Beyond coursework, I was grateful to meet many new people from across Otago. The kindness and support of my teachers and peers helped me settle in quickly, and I have been fortunate to maintain close friendships with classmates who continue to study in the same or similar fields. Most rewarding of all, my dedication and effort were reflected in my results, as I achieved the highest marks available in the course, an accomplishment that enabled my teacher to write a letter of recommendation for the Architecture Department.*

*I am currently in my second semester, studying Digital Design and Media. Our first project was a digital poster for a band or artist. While I haven't received my results yet, I applied the artistic and research skills from last semester, and with the guidance from my teacher, I am hopeful for a positive outcome. We're now creating a small website to practice coding and web design, and despite my basic coding experience, this project has been a great chance to refine my skills. The teachers have been nothing but encouraging and supportive, and collaborating with my friend from last semester has made this course quite fun.*

*Looking ahead, I am thrilled to share that Otago Polytechnic has offered me a place in their Bachelor of Architectural Studies program, in which I am eager to further develop the skills I have learnt this year. I am deeply grateful for your support, as your scholarship has played a crucial role in enabling me to pursue my education with enthusiasm and dedication.*

### **Future awards**

Where does our future lie? Changes in such as the separation of our Business Session from the main events of Convocation are a matter for all Companions to consider, similarly with the overall reduction in membership. The thoughts of a presentation from Convocation 2012 "*Holding the Line*" come to mind in that the solution lies with us individually and collectively.

Can we all encourage use of the QR code arranged and distributed as one-way of direct giving? Tax receipts are issued directly from that system.

## Summary

It remains rewarding to us as a committee to receive feedback from around the country and to see the positive impact these scholarships had made. Some items found their way into the “red pages” of the *Freemason* magazine for which our thanks go to the editor of that publication.

Finally, from the current members of our small committee, RE Comp Bob Monson and Paul Johnston and myself, a sincere “thank you”.

In presenting his report, RE Comp Hart noted good feedback from the students who received awards. ME Comp Burt reminded Companions that an Installation must be taken at Chapter and Council Installations. The QR is a good way of collecting money and needs to be brought to the attention of members, for example by being printed on Installation programmes or summonses. VE Comp Cross proposed that focus could be on legacies and bequeaths as in the past hundreds of thousands of dollars have been raised by such monies vs relatively smaller amounts raised through Installation collections.

### **Centennial Award Committee (ME Comp Geoff Davies GPA, Chair)**

It is a pleasure to present the Committee’s report for 2025.

Our current awardee, Dr Felix Bird, attended Convocation 2025 in Hamilton, and addressed Companions, partners, and friends at the meet and greet event on Friday, March 7. This was well received, as was his attendance at the Installation and Banquet the following day. He was very generous with his time and met and chatted with a large number of people over that period, leading to much wide-ranging discussion about his work and career. As a result I am confident that there is a high level of awareness and interest amongst Convocation 2025 attendees and beyond in his work “Accelerated biological ageing - can we see it in the macula?” (The press release announcing the award issued the day before Convocation began has been included below for reference.)

Later in the year Dr Bird used award funding to travel to the UK for a significant course in his area of specialisation. On his return he reported back to the Committee:

“Thanks to the support of the Royal Arch, I recently attended the Moorfields Macula Course in London. This intensive four-day programme, hosted at the internationally renowned Moorfields Eye Hospital, provided a comprehensive overview of macular disease, with content tailored to both clinical and academic audiences. The course explored key retinal conditions such as age-related macular degeneration, diabetic macular oedema, central serous chorioretinopathy, polypoidal choroidal vasculopathy, and inherited retinal diseases.

“Sessions combined high-level lectures from leading retina specialists with case-based discussions and imaging workshops, offering a deep dive into diagnostic approaches, treatment decision-making, and advances in therapeutics, including anti-VEGF therapy, gene-based interventions, robotics and retinal transplant. The opportunity to learn directly from

experts and to engage with peers from around the world added significant value to the overall experience, reinforcing clinical knowledge while highlighting areas of ongoing innovation in the field.”

After such a good start, it is regrettable to report that he has been unable to take further advantage of our support: external funding constraints on the Dunedin Study, of which Dr Bird’s research is part, have arisen, and his work has had to be paused. These constraints stem from wider funding cuts in the United States, which have affected a number of international research partnerships, including the Dunedin Study. Dr Bird and his supervisor, Dr Graham Wilson, have emphasised to the Committee that these developments are entirely outside the control of the local research team:

“As a consequence of these external pressures, the flow of funds that support this particular component of the study has been limited. This has necessitated a pause in planned research activity, including data collection and analysis. It is important to note that this is not a reflection on the project itself, its merit, or its progress to date, but rather a consequence of global funding decisions beyond our sphere of influence.

“The directors of the Dunedin Study have provided assurance that this project remains a high priority. They are engaged in discussions to secure the continuation of funding. Based on the information currently available, it is hoped that research activity will be able to resume in the early months of 2026.

“At this stage, no further detail regarding the specific funding sources can be provided, as these matters sit within the remit of the Dunedin Study’s leadership. The research team is not in a position to comment on the details or timing of these negotiations.

“While the current situation is unfortunate, it is temporary. The research team is maintaining readiness to restart as soon as the necessary funding flows are reinstated, and remains committed to delivering the high-quality research outcomes originally proposed.”

With respect to Dr Bird’s situation, the Committee has agreed to take no action at this point other than maintaining a watching brief on the situation, with Dr Bird’s full support and co-operation. We hope that, as suggested above, his work will resume shortly.

However, after ring-fencing the balance of funding awarded to Dr Bird (just over \$25,000) there is still some \$30,000 available in the Fund, and the Committee has recently decided to consider making a second award of part of this amount early in 2026, to run concurrently with the second year of Dr Bird’s award. There is precedent for this, and it would enable us to effectively double the benefits to New Zealand communities the Fund provides, and create a new opportunity to promote our Order. We will report further to the Companions on this, possibly at Convocation 2026 in Christchurch.

In conclusion, I thank my fellow members of the Centennial Award Committee, RE Comp Bob Monson and VE Comp Geoff Todd, for their support and contribution to this very worthwhile endeavour, and we thank the Grand Treasurer, RE Comp Paul Sargison, for his considerable assistance and advice.

Press release:

## **ROYAL ARCH FREEMASONS INVEST IN EYE RESEARCH**

New Zealand Freemasons who are members of the Royal Arch Order meeting in Hamilton this weekend have made a significant investment into research of systemic ageing which could be a game-changer for Kiwis.

The Order's Centennial Award for 2025-2026, of \$30,000 over the two years, has been made to Dr Felix Bird, an ophthalmology registrar at Hawke's Bay hospital. His research, under the auspices of the University of Otago's Dunedin Study on ageing, aims to investigate the relationship between retinal pathology and systemic disease. Ultimately, if a correlation is found, retinal imaging could provide a useful screening measure to identify and prevent disease progression at an earlier stage.

The chairman of the Royal Arch Centennial Award Committee, Geoff Davies, said that the Order is proud to support research which could benefit millions of New Zealanders in the coming years. "Macular disease, which leads to the loss of central vision, could prove to be a reliable indicator of biological ageing, and if so, would provide a cost-effective and accessible means to identify pathological ageing. The potential benefits could be game-changing for identifying systemic disease," he said.

The Centennial Award was established in 1992 and has been made in support of researchers engaged mostly in medical fields such as kidney failure, diabetes, Parkinson's, anti-cancer vaccines and, most recently, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD). It is aimed at supporting research work that is of direct benefit to New Zealanders.

"The work we have helped to fund over the 30-plus years of the Award's existence has made a positive difference in many health fields," Mr Davies said.

"However, eye health is a matter for everyone and we are delighted that in Dr Bird's research we have found an opportunity to support a project of significance to all New Zealanders."

### **Note to editors: The Dunedin Study**

Dr Bird's research is a project of the University of Otago's Dunedin Multidisciplinary Health and Development Study, commonly referred to as the Dunedin Study. It is, to quote its website (<https://dunedinstudy.otago.ac.nz/>) "an ongoing, longitudinal study of the health, development and well-being of a general sample of New Zealanders. They were studied at birth (1972-73), and followed up and assessed at the age of three when the longitudinal study was established. Since then they have been assessed every two years until the age of 15, then at ages 18 (1990-91), 21 (1993-94), 26 (1998-99), 32 (2003-2005), and 38 (2010-2012). The Study members have recently been assessed at age 45 (2017-2019) and it is hoped to continue further assessments in the future."

The Study marked 50 years of work and contributions to society in 2023, and Governor-General Dame Cindy Kiro was guest of honour at a birthday function at the university. She said that the Study has been described as the broadest and most in-depth study of human beings ever conducted – that for 50 years, it has been providing us profound insights into why we become who we are.

“The University of Otago and all New Zealanders can be immensely proud of the Dunedin Study ... it remains the worldwide benchmark for a longitudinal study of this kind, ” she said.

## **6. Election and appointment of Grand Chapter officers**

The following is the list of Grand Chapter officers as recommended by Management Council.

### **National**

First Grand Principal	RE Comp Greg Bennett
Depute First Grand Principal/Divisional Grand Principal - Southern	VE Comp Neville Hall GPA
Grand Haggai/Divisional Grand Principal - Northern	VE Comp Doug McNab
Grand Jeshua/Divisional Grand Principal - Central	VE Comp Frant Bottrill
1 <sup>st</sup> Grand Sojourner	VE Comp Anthony Fallon
2 <sup>nd</sup> Grand Sojourner	VE Comp Ken Stokes
3 <sup>rd</sup> Grand Sojourner	VE Comp Neville Ballantyne

Election of the Grand Principals with effect from Convocation 2027 was moved by ME Comp Ken Burt and seconded by RE Comp John MacDonald.

Carried

Election of the Grand Sojourners with effect from Convocation 2026 was moved by ME Comp Ken Burt and seconded by RE Comp Herb Carberry.

Carried

### **Southern Division Grand Chapter officers**

#### **Nelson/Marlborough/Westland District**

Grand Superintendent	VE Comp Gerrit van Asch
Grand Director of Ceremonies	VE Comp Peter Barker
Grand Sword Bearer	VE Comp Robert Tyler
Grand Standard Bearer	VE Comp Robert Day

#### **Canterbury District**

Grand Superintendent	VE Comp Murray Roberts
Grand Director of Ceremonies	RE Comp Mervyn Green
Grand Sword Bearer	VE Comp Roel Rojas
Special Grand Rank	VE Comp Peter Nelson

## Otago/Southland District

Grand Superintendent	RE Com Keith Campbell (re-election)
Grand Director of Ceremonies	VE Comp Alan Gurney
Grand Standard Bearer	VE Comp Peter Crepin

Election of the Southern Division Grand Chapter officers with effect from Convocation 2026 was moved by ME Comp Ken Burt and seconded by VE Comp Duane Williams.

Carried

The following appointments are noted.

## Southern Division

Grand Lecturer	VE Comp Neville Hall GPA
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## Central Division

Grand Lecturer	VE Comp John Mitchell
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The Grand Lecturer roles are appointed by the First Grand Principal and do not require election.

- RE Comp Phil Brooke was appointed by Management Council as a member of the Ritual Committee with effect from 1 June 2025 to replace ME Comp Ken Burt (as a result of his election as First Grand Principal).
- With effect from Convocation 2026, the Management Council has extended the term on the Jubilee Memorial Scholarship Council of RE Comp Bob Monson by one year and the term of RE Comp Paul Johnston by three years. The terms were renewed for different periods to allow for staggered end dates.

## 7. Proposed amendments to the Book of Constitution and Laws (RE Comp David Ryan)

Adoption of the amendments to the Book of Constitution and Laws as circulated was moved by ME Comp Ken Burt, seconded by ME Comp Dennis Waller.

Carried

A question was asked about the process and timing of election of Grand Chapter officers. RE Comp Ryan replied that the amendments clarify the process and timing for the various officer roles that have different terms and timing.

## 8. Other business

ME Comp Burt noted that Installation ritual books have been printed and sent to GSupts in the North Island and will be taken to Convocation 2026 for South Island GSupts. Installation ceremonies across the country differ and these differences are accounted for in the new

book which follows the book last issued about 20 years ago. RE Comp Phil Brooke noted that the revised Cryptic Council ritual books have been drafted and are in the checking process.

ME Comp Burt noted that, as the old moulds for our insignia have been discarded by the supplier, we are investigating new supplies and ought to have something to show in the near future.

RE Comp Peter Smith asked whether Convocations could be held every two to three years given the cost and the dwindling membership. ME Comp Burt replied that Management Council will discuss this idea.

E Comp Paul Sullivan asked whether Pathway evenings are organised at a national level as they are a good means of bringing in new members. ME Comp Burt replied that it is normally Districts that organise such meetings and that they are always productive. One such meeting brought in 10-12 new members spread across Chapters in the district. RE Comp Herb Carberry noted that a Pathways meeting is due to be held in the Wellington District.

The meeting was adjourned by ME Comp Burt at 7:35 pm until the Convocation meeting on 7 March 2026.

## Proclamation Ceremony

Companions and guests (approximately 86 people) gathered in the Great Hall at the Chateau on the Park, Christchurch, on Saturday, 6 March 2026.

The ceremony was opened at 2:30pm with RE Comp M J Green SGR as Director of Ceremonies, VE Comp J W Burn as Assistant Director of Ceremonies, and Comp W F Grubb as Organist.

Grand Chapter officers-elect were led into the Great Hall. The Director of Ceremonies then announced the entrance of ME Comp K R Burt, First Grand Principal, and officers of Grand Chapter. ME Comp Burt opened Grand Chapter and was greeted with the honours due to his high and exalted rank.

The Depute First Grand Principal moved that the matters conducted at the Business Session held on 22 February 2026 be ratified. The motion was seconded by RE Comp D T Ryan GSE, and was carried.

The First Grand Principal received the following distinguished guests.

- Bro Tony Mansfield, Depute District Grand Master, District of New Zealand North Island, Grand Lodge of Scotland
- WBro Robert Jaray, PM, Knight of the Scarlet Mantle, Senior Grand Deacon, The Masonic Order of Athelstan in Australasia
- Worthy Sir Knight Ron Lane, Past Provincial Deputy Grand Marshall, Provincial Assistant Grand Secretary, Province of South Australia and New Zealand, The Commemorative Order of St Thomas of Acon
- RW Bro Glenn Summerhayes, District Grand Prefect, District of New Zealand, Grand Council of the Order of Allied Masonic Degrees of England and Wales and Districts and Councils Overseas
- V III Bro John Evered 33°, Sovereign Grand Inspector General, Deputy for the Province of New Zealand Central, Ancient and Accepted Rite for Scotland
- M III Knight Rod Biel, Knight Grand Cross, Grand Sovereign, Grand Imperial Conclave of New Zealand of the Masonic and Military, Order of the Red Cross of Constantine
- M III Bro Ron Sutherland, Grand Almoner, Supreme Council 33° of the Ancient and Accepted Rite for New Zealand

- Rt Em Knight Phil Brooke, Knight Grand Cross, Grand Secretary, United Great Priory in New Zealand of the Religious, Military, and Masonic Orders of the Temple and of St John of Jerusalem, Palestine, Rhodes, and Malta
- MW Bro Paul Johnston, Past Grand Supreme Ruler, Grand Conclave of the Order of the Secret Monitor of New Zealand
- M Ill Comp Richard Elkington, Order of Australia, Past Grand Master, Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of Victoria
- RW Bro Taz Webster, District Grand Master, District Grand Lodge of New Zealand under the Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of England & Wales and its Districts and Lodges Overseas
- E Comp Barry Holland, District Grand Chapter of North Island New Zealand, Supreme Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of England & Wales & its Districts & Chapters Overseas
- R Ex Comp Mervyn Gray, PDGZ, Grand Haggai, Supreme Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Queensland
- ME Comp Peter Trow, First Grand Principal and Grand Master, United Supreme Grand Chapter of Mark and Royal Arch Masons of New South Wales and the Australian Capital Territory

The distinguished guests were honoured and saluted.

MW Bro P B J Chappel, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Antient and Accepted Masons of New Zealand was welcomed by the First Grand Principal and was honoured and saluted.

ME Comp Burt asked for Companions and guests to rise for a moment's silence to honour Companions who had passed to the Grand Chapter above in the preceding 12 months.

The national anthem was sung.

After a fanfare and his Proclamation as First Grand Principal by the Grand Director of Ceremonies, ME Comp Burt was saluted three times with the sign of fidelity.

RE Comps G W Bennett, Depute First Grand Principal, I T Plummer, Second Grand Principal and M S Downey, Third Grand Principal, were duly proclaimed and saluted with the sign of fidelity once.

ME Comp G P Pengelly PGZ invested RE Comp G van Asch, as Grand Superintendent for the Nelson/Marlborough/Westland District, RE Comp M G Roberts as Grand Superintendent for the Canterbury District, and RE Comp K Campbell (re-elected) as Grand Superintendent for the Otago/Southland District. The invested Grand Superintendents were proclaimed and saluted with the sign of fidelity once.

The remaining Grand Chapter officers-elect present were invested as follows:

- Grand Lecturers ME Comp K R Burt GZ
- Grand Directors of Ceremonies ME Comp B Hebbard PGZ
- Grand Sojourners ME Comp G K Redman PGZ
- Grand Sword Bearers RE Comp G W Bennett GH
- Grand Standard Bearers RE Comp I T Plummer GJ
- Special Grand Rank ME Comp D M Waller PGZ

ME Comp Ken Burt then delivered the following address.

To the Distinguished Guests, all Companions of the Royal Arch, Family and Friends, I personally welcome you all today and thank you for your attendance here at the 134<sup>th</sup> Convocation of the Supreme Grand Royal Arch Chapter of New Zealand.

Tēnā koutou, tēnā koutou, tēnā koutou katoa

For the benefit of our visitors from overseas I can advise that a translation of that te reo Māori greeting is: I greet you all, I greet your ancestors and I greet your descendants.

That brings to mind an admonition in the Address to the Companions at a Chapter Installation: I cannot doubt that your future conduct, and that of your successors, will be calculated still to increase the lustre of your justly esteemed reputation.

However, I digress - may I welcome the newly installed – 4 months ago – Most Worshipful Brother Paul Chappel, Grand Master for Freemasons New Zealand. The bonds between Grand Lodge and Grand Chapter are very important and having our Grand Master here today adds strength to that bond of over 130 years.

I also welcome those other heads of orders or their representatives seated to my left. Together they are the face of the rich tapestry of Freemasonry with its many orders which all stem from the same base – Craft Masonry.

It's good to see so many familiar faces — along with some new ones — gathered here for our annual convocation. The bonds we form in this room don't just belong to the present; they're the living link in a chain that stretches back over 300 years of modern Freemasonry. Every time we gather, we reaffirm something that's all too rare these days: a commitment to integrity, to brotherly love, and to the pursuit of deeper understanding.

Royal Arch Masonry is sometimes described as the “heart and marrow” of our Craft. Today, I want to talk about what that means — not just in ritual, but in real life. We're living in a world that moves fast, sometimes too fast for reflection. The lessons we learn here — about patience, about humility, about the search for truth

— are the kind that only reveal their full value over time. They are antidotes to cynicism. They are reminders that wisdom isn't a destination, but a journey.

Some of you travelled a long way to be here. Others have given up time you could have spent elsewhere. I want to thank you for that. The work we do together matters. It matters in the way we support one another, in the charities we champion, and in the way we carry ourselves when we return to our homes, our jobs, our communities.

In the last 12 months I have had the benefit and honour to represent this Grand Chapter at a number of Installations of Grand Chapters, Grand Mark Lodges, and Grand Councils in Australia and also at Chapter Installations in New Zealand. On each and every occasion I have been heartily welcomed and have enjoyed the camaraderie - renewing old friendships and making new ones.

At last year's Convocation I spoke of the need to rebuild not only our order but also to look to encourage non masons to join Freemasonry. I am encouraged by the fact that our GSE has reported that our numbers have stabilised, as I am given to understand is also the case at Grand Lodge.

One of my messages during visits is to encourage our senior members of Chapters to act as mentors for newer companions and not to take over the work in the Chapter. This will encourage Chapter members to attend and I have reports that this is now being affected in some chapters. The new degree ceremonial books have been taken up with great enthusiasm and I am pleased to also announce that each Grand Chapter officer is being provided with a new ceremonial book for Chapter Installation ceremonies as well as that for a Worshipful Mark Master and Officers for a Mark Masters Lodge.

If I could ask for one thing as we go forward from this Convocation, it's that we remember the obligation we took — not just as words, but as a living call. Find a way to reach out to a Companion you haven't spoken to in a while. Take time to answer a question from a new member. Share what you know, and be open to learning from those around you. Find out why a Companion has resigned and does not appear at meetings. Does he need some assistance of some kind? Is he in some kind of distress? Our Order thrives when each of us brings our best, and when we help others do the same.

Companions, thank you for being here, for your dedication, your energy, and your belief that what we do together still matters. To the family and friends that have accompanied you, thank you for your support of your loved one. May the Great Architect continue to guide our steps, and may we leave this gathering strengthened in friendship and purpose.

Following this address, fraternal greetings were conveyed by MW Bro P B J Chappel, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Antient and Accepted Masons of New Zealand.

Fraternal greetings were also conveyed by RE Comp P J Brooke on behalf of other orders and constitutions in New Zealand, by M Ill Comp R L Elkington OAM on behalf of overseas visitors, by RW Bro J Webster on behalf of sister constitutions, and by ME Comp G P Pengelly on behalf of Grand Representatives of sister constitutions near the Supreme Grand Royal Arch Chapter of New Zealand.

During the singing of the final ode a collection was taken in aid of the Jubilee Memorial Scholarship Fund.

The First Grand Principal asked the Director of Ceremonies to place RE Comp R J Wright in the East and invested him as PGJ (honoris causa).

The First Grand Principal closed Grand Chapter in ample form at 4.35 pm and retired with Grand Chapter officers and distinguished guests.

**Appendix 1: Grand Chapter Officers, Trustees, and Committees  
(effective from Convocation 2026)**

**Grand Chapter officers**

GZ	RE Comp Ken Burt	Porirua
DGZ/GZ-elect	RE Comp Greg Bennett	Marton
GH	RE Comp Ian Plummer	Blenheim
GJ	RE Comp Mike Downey	Auckland
GSupt	RE Comp Eddie Eeles	Auckland
GSupt	RE Comp Leon Jeffrey	Morrinsville
GSupt	RE Comp Ross Braybrook	Napier
GSupt	RE Comp Herb Carberry	Lower Hutt
GSupt	RE Comp Roland Blake	Waitara
GSupt	RE Comp Gerrit van Asch	Nelson
GSupt	RE Comp Murray Roberts	Rolleston
GSupt	RE Comp Keith Campbell	Invercargill
GSE	RE Comp David Ryan	Wellington
GTreas	RE Comp Paul Sargison	Auckland
GReg	RE Comp jd Dallas	Wellington
GLec	RE Comp John Macdonald	Whangarei
GLec	RE Comp John Mitchell	Pukeura Bay
GLec	RE Comp Neville Hall GPA	Invercargill
GSN	VE Comp Duane Williams	Wellington
GDC	VE Comp Gavin Deevy	Auckland
GDC	VE Comp C Delos Santos	Rotorua
GDC	VE Comp David Marriott	Hastings
GDC	VE Comp Rob McLellan	Otaki
GDC	VE Comp Bill Taylor	Wellington
GDC	VE Comp Peter Barker	Seddon
GDC	VE Comp Mervyn Green	Ashburton
GDC	VE Comp Alan Gurney	Invercargill
1st GSoj	VE Comp Anthony Fallon	Rolleston
2nd GSoj	VE Comp Ken Stokes	Wellington
3rd GSoj	VE Comp Neville Ballantyne	Hamilton
GOrg	VE Comp David Trott	Wellington
GSwdB	VE Comp Neil Rowlands	Auckland
GSwdB	VE Comp Bryan Bevege	Hamilton
GSwdB	VE Comp Richard Millea	Napier
GSwdB	VE Comp Roel Rojas	Ashburton
GStdB	VE Comp Garry Larsen	Kaitaia
GStdB	VE Comp Peter Duynstee	Auckland

GStdB	VE Comp John Wright	Thames
GStdB	VE Comp Andrew Neilson	Palmerston North
GStdB	VE Comp Leslie Frost	Manakau
GStdB	VE Comp Geoff Todd	Wellington
GStdB	VE Comp Robert Day	West Coast
GStdB	VE Comp Peter Crepin	Invercargill
ChMC	ME Comp Dennis Waller	Auckland

### **Trustees of Grand Chapter**

VE Comp R G Burgess PGOrg (Chair)

ME Comp B Hebbard PGZ

VE Comp A S Cross PGStdB

### **Accounts reviewer**

VE Comp W G Cant

### **Jubilee Memorial Scholarship Council**

RE Comp A L Hart PGH (Chair)

RE Comp R G Monson PGH

RE Comp P R A Johnston PDGZ

### **Centennial Award Committee**

ME Comp G J Davies PGZ (Chair)

RE Comp R G Monson PGH

VE Comp G A Todd GStdB

### **Ritual Committee**

RE Comp R J Wright PGJ

RE Comp P J Brooke PGH

VE Comp R S Carson PGSwdb

## Appendix 1: Details of Royal Arch Chapters and Cryptic Councils

### Details of Royal Arch Chapters

No.	Chapter	Location	Meeting Dates	Scribe Ezra
<b>Canterbury District</b>				
6	Albert Edward	Shirley Christchurch	3 <sup>rd</sup> Thu Feb, Jun, Sep, Nov (Installation Sep)	Murray Tasker 027 257 6339 albertedwardrac@gmail.com
35	Rose & Thistle	Ashburton	4th Wed Feb, Apr, May, Jul, Sep, Nov (Installation May)	John Burn 03 308 6654 iris.john.b@xtra.co.nz
86	Shirley	Shirley	1st Tues Feb, Mar, Apr, May, Sep, Oct, Nov (Installation Sep)	Stephen Biddlecombe 020 462 2035 stephen.biddlecombe91@ googlemail.com
1	St Augustine	Riccarton	4th Mon, Feb, Apr, Jun, Aug, Oct, Nov (Installation Nov)	Edgener Collado 027 222 4474 edgecollado@icloud.com
15	Timaru	Timaru	1st Wed Mar, Apr, Jun, Aug, Sep, Nov (Installation Sep)	Eion Miller 027 490 6319 eionmiller948@gmail.com
<b>Hauraki District</b>				
57	Bay of Plenty	Whakatane	4 <sup>th</sup> Mon Mar, May, Jul, Nov (Installation 2nd Sat Sep)	Ross Dalziell 07 308 5282 rossdalziell08@gmail.com
103	Mt Maunganui	Tauranga	3rd Mon Feb, Mar, May, Jul, Sep, Nov (Installation Jul)	Lars Thiel-Lardon 021 178 5714 pms2009ltd@gmail.com
17	Ohinemuri	Whitianga	Meeting dates to be confirmed (Installation Oct)	Ronald Gifford 027 490 9405 oripak34@gmail.com
44	Rotorua	Rotorua	3 <sup>rd</sup> Thur, Feb, Apr, Jun, Sep, Nov (Installation Jun)	Dave Johnstone 027 516 1248 rotoruarac44@gmail.com
48	Piako	Morrinsville	3rd Mon Feb, Apr, Jun, Aug, Sep, Oct, Nov. (Installation Oct)	Jim McLaggan 021 500 646 mclaggan383@gmail.com
97	Tawhiri	Hamilton	2 <sup>nd</sup> Wed, Feb, Apr, Jun, Jul, Sep, Nov (Installation Apr)	John Evered 021 0258 2271 tawhirira97@gmail.com

88	Te Awamutu	Te Awamutu	4 <sup>th</sup> Mon Mar, May, Jun, Aug, Oct (Installation Jun)	Jeremy Earl 021 440 572 teawamuturoyalarchchapter@gmail.com
22	Waikato	East Hamilton	1 <sup>st</sup> Mon Feb, May, Jul, Oct, Dec (Installation Oct)	Alan Tydeman 027 360 7558 alan_tydeman@hotmail.com

### Hawkes Bay District

38	Heretaunga	Hastings	1 <sup>st</sup> Thu Feb to Nov (Installation May)	Paul Roberts 06 877 7683 ptroberts@outlook.co.nz
4	Victoria	Napier	4 <sup>th</sup> Sat Feb, Apr, Jul, Sep, 1 <sup>st</sup> Sat Nov (Installation Nov)	Bruce MacConnell 027 273 4443 brucemacconnell@xtra.co.nz

### Nelson/Marlborough/Westland District

21	Kawatiri	Westport	17 Feb, 21 Apr, 21 Jul, 19 Sep, 15 Nov (Installation Nov)	Kent Gallagher 021 068 2227 kawatiri21@gmail.com
14	Marlborough	Blenheim	4 <sup>th</sup> Tue Jan, Mar-Nov (Installation 4 <sup>th</sup> Sat Feb)	Bob Cresswell 021 117 5328 quarffe@xtra.co.nz
12	Victory	Nelson	4 <sup>th</sup> Thu Feb, Apr, Jun, Aug, Nov (Installation 4 <sup>th</sup> Sat Sep)	David Marsh 03 545 0145 david.e.marsh@gmail.com

### Northland/Auckland District

53	Ara	Khyber Pass	3 <sup>rd</sup> Thu Feb, Mar, Apr, May, Sep, Oct, Nov (Installation Mar)	Peter Duynstee 021 0240 0010 ara53ra@outlook.com
9	Auckland	Khyber Pass	1 <sup>st</sup> Thu Mar, May, Jul, Oct, Dec (Installation Jul)	Jason MacKenzie 021 0277 0836 jasonaklchpt9@gmail.com
101	Howick	Highland Park	3 <sup>rd</sup> Tues Apr, Jul, Sep, Nov (Installation Nov)	Ken Galley 09 574 6478 kgalley@actrix.co.nz
80	Kaipara- Mahurangi	Orewa	2 <sup>nd</sup> Sat Mar, Apr, May, Jun, Aug, Sep, Oct, Nov, Dec, (Installation Jun)	John MacDonald 028 258 85111 john@merlin.net.nz
69	Karangahape	Mt Albert	3 <sup>rd</sup> Mon Mar, May, Jul, Sep, Nov (Installation Jul)	Mike Downey 021 632 629 k69@xtra.co.nz
52	North Shore	Albany	4 <sup>th</sup> Wed Feb, Mar, 5 <sup>th</sup> Wed Apr, 4 <sup>th</sup> Wed Jul, 5 <sup>th</sup> Wed Sep, 4 <sup>th</sup> Thurs Oct	Geoff Parry 021 350 301 geoffparry357@gmail.com

			(Installation Sep)	
98	Peace	Khyber Pass	3 <sup>rd</sup> Mon Apr, May, Jun, Aug, Oct, Nov (Installation 3 <sup>rd</sup> Mon Apr)	Ron Holbrook 027 443 5157 rholbrook@xtra.co.nz
27	Whangarei	Whangarei	1 <sup>st</sup> Tue Mar to Dec (Installation Nov)	Ian Guthrie 027 293 5568 ianguthrie@xtra.co.nz
61	William Ferguson Massey	Pukekohe	2 <sup>nd</sup> Mon Feb, Apr, Jun, Aug, Sep, Nov (Installation Sep)	Tony Jenkin 09 238 7867 tony.pat.jenkin@gmail.com

#### Ruapehu/Taranaki District

74	Carlyle	Patea	4th Wed Feb, Apr, Jun, Sep, Nov (Installation Apr)	Dave Stowell 027 453 8325 sandyanddave@xtra.co.nz
11	Manawatu	Palmerston North	4th Thu Jan, 4th Mon Mar, May, Jul, Sep, Nov (Installation Nov)	Mark Russell 027 903 9121 russellm4691@gmail.com
43	Otaihape	Taihape	4th Thu every second month Mar to Nov (Installation Mar)	Greg Bennett 027 488 7555 gwjmbennett@outlook.co.nz
23	Wanganui	Wanganui	2 <sup>nd</sup> Mon Mar to Dec (Installation Sep)	Craig Paynter 021 035 0945 wanganuira23@gmail.com

#### Otago/Southland District

20	Cromwell Coronation	Clyde	2 <sup>nd</sup> Tues, four or more times per annum	Bruce Hebbard 0276 133 724 abhebbard@gmail.com
90	St Andrew	Invercargill	4th Wed Feb-Nov (Installation Oct)	Neville Hall 027 651 1365 nev.hall.nz@gmail.com

#### Wellington District

24	Brooklyn	Porirua	2nd Wed Feb, Apr, Jun, Aug, Oct, Nov (Installation Feb)	Nik Straugheir 021 297 2928 brooklynchapter24@gmail.com
92	Tutanekai- Hinemoa	Wellington	1 <sup>st</sup> Mon Feb to Dec excl Jun (Installation Royal Arch Nov/Mark Dec)	Ken Stokes 027 478 6069 kws51wn@gmail.com

10	Hutt-Wairarapa	Masterton Lower Hutt (alternate)	4th Tues Feb, Mar, Apr, Jun, Aug, Oct (Installation Oct)	TBA
2	Waterloo-Russell	Johnsonville	2nd Mon Feb to May, Sep to Nov (Installation May)	Alan Cuthbert 04 383 8550 agcuthbert@xtra.co.nz
62	Wellington	Porirua	1st Thu Mar, May, Jul, Sep, Nov (Installation Sep)	Duane Williams 021 051 2020 duanewilliams57@gmail.com
63	Horowhenua	Waikanae	3 <sup>rd</sup> Tues Mar, May, Jul, Sep, Nov (Installation Nov)	Alan Hart 021 045 7003 alhart1701@gmail.com

### National

110	Chapter of Transition	National		c/o David Ryan 021 543 449 gse@royalarch.org.nz
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### Details of Cryptic Councils

Council	Venue	Recorder details
1	St Augustine Riccarton 3 <sup>rd</sup> Thu in Mar, May, Aug, Oct (Install Oct)	Bob Wright shinerwright1999@gmail.com 0221 606 712
3	Southern Cross Invercargill 24 Mar, 30 Jun, 29 Sep (Install Jun)	Neville Hall nevhallnz@gmail.com 027 651 1365
11	Manawatu Palmerston North	Mark Russell manawatuucc11@gmail.com 027 903 9121
12	Victory Nelson	Barry Blundell barryparke@xtra.co.nz 021 521 835
14	Marlborough Blenheim	Bob Cresswell quarffe@xtra.co.nz 021 117 5328
15	Timaru Ashburton 1 <sup>st</sup> Wed in Feb, May (Ashburton), 1 <sup>st</sup> Wed in Jul, Oct (Timaru) (Install Oct)	John Burn iris.john.b@xtra.co.nz 03 308 6654
20	Cromwell Coronation Clyde	Neville Rosborough nevana@xtra.co.nz 027 646 5386
22	Waikato Hamilton 5 <sup>th</sup> Thursday: 30 Apr, 30 Jul, 28 Aug (Install), 29 Oct	John Evered everedz53@gmail.com 021 025 82271

<b>Council</b>		<b>Venue</b>	<b>Recorder details</b>	
38	Heretaunga	Hastings	Bruce MacConnell	brucemacconnell@xtra.co.nz 027 444 3470
44	Rotorua	Rotorua	Roy Austria	royaustria1912@yahoo.com 021 146 5865
51	Russell	Johnsonville 4 <sup>th</sup> Mon in Feb, May, Aug, Nov	Don Hazlewood	dhdonbel@gmail.com 028 461 5909
52	North Shore	Albany 4 <sup>th</sup> Wed, May 5 <sup>th</sup> Wed, Jul 4 <sup>th</sup> Wed, Nov	Geoff Parry	geoffparry357@gmail.com 021 350 301
53	Ara	Khyber Pass 1 <sup>st</sup> Mon in Mar, May, Sep, Dec (Install Dec)	Ken Galley	kgalley@actrix.co.nz 027 241 0792
65	Bay of Islands	Whangarei	Ian Guthrie	ianguthrie@xtra.co.nz 027 293 5568
80	Mahurangi	Orewa 2 <sup>nd</sup> Sat Mar, May, Jul, Oct (Install July)	John MacDonald	john@merlin.net.nz 028 2588 5111
109	Hutt Valley	Lower Hutt 5 <sup>th</sup> Mon: 30 Mar, 29 Jun, 31 Aug, 30 Nov	Dave Keenan	dkeen@xtra.co.nz 027 602 5819
111	Silver Trowel	Annual Convocation	David Ryan	gse@royalarch.org.nz 021 543 449

### Appendix 3: Grand Chapter Officers

This is a list of all members of Grand Chapter who are currently entitled to rank as present or past Grand Chapter Officers as at 8 March 2026.

Name	Rank	Year
ALFORD, Murray Harley	PGSwdB	2015
ALLAN, George William	GLec	2019-2023
ARNOLD, Michael Raymond	GSwdB	2002-2003
	GDC	2005-2007
	GSupt	2007-2010
	DGZ	2013-2015
	GSupt	2022-2024
BAIRSTOW, Graeme Gordon	GStdB	1997-1998
BALLANTYNE, Neville Rex	GSwdB	2019-2022
	3 <sup>rd</sup> GSoj	2026-
BARKER, Peter Gordon	GDC	2026-
BARRETT, Ronald John	GLec	2007-2009
BATTY, Arthur Edwin	GSwdB	1991-1992
	GDC	2007-2009
	GSupt	2016-2019
BENNETT, Donald Anthony	AGDC	2001-2002
	GDC	2003-2004
	GSupt	2011-2013
	PGJ	2020
BENNETT, Gregory Wallace	GStdB	2012-2014
	GSupt	2018-2021
	GH	2023-2025
	DGZ	2025-
BERRYMAN, Ivan Alexander	GStdB	2022-2025
BEVEGE, Bryan Alfred	GSwdB	2025-
BIEL, Roderick Hugh	AGDC	1995-1996
	GDC	1996-1997
	GSupt	1999-2002
	GZ	2007-2009
BLAKE, Roland Charles	GSwdB	2012-2014
	GDC	2015-2018
	GSupt	2024-
BLUNDELL, Barry Parke	PGStdB	2022
BOTTRILL, Francis Robert	GSwdB	2015-2018
BRAY, Richard Michael	GStdB	1999-2000
	GDC	2003-2005
	GSupt	2014-2018
BRAYBROOK, Ross Malcolm	GSwdB	2018-2021
	GDC	2021-2024

Name	Rank	Year
	GSupt	2024-
BRETON, John Dudley	GStdB	2015-2018
	GSwdB	2018-2021
BROOKE, Philip John	GSwdB	1999-2000
	GDC	2003-2004
	GSupt	2007-2010
	GH	2011-2012
BURGESS, Raymond Gordon	GOrg	2016-2021
BUNDLE, Graham Richard	2 <sup>nd</sup> GSoj	2017-2020
BURN, John Wayman	GSwdB	2020-2023
	GDC	2023-2026
BURT, Kenneth Robert	GStdB	2010-2012
	GDC	2015-2016
	GSupt	2017-2021
	GJ	2021-2023
	GZ	2025-
CAMPBELL, Keith	AGDC	2021-2023
	GSupt	2023-
CANNING, Noel Robin Alan	GStdB	2017-2019
	PGSoj	2022
CARBERRY, Herbert William Raymond	PGSoj	2012
	GDC	2020-2024
	GSupt	2024-
CARSON, Roger Scoullar	GSwdB	2019-2022
CHAPPLE, Roger	PGSwdB	2020
CLEAVER, William Barry	GSwdB	1992-1993
	GDC	1996-1997
	GDC	2009-2011
	GSupt	2012-2014
CONNOR, John	PGStdB	2017
COPEMAN, Peter	GStdB	2000-2001
	GDC	2009-2011
	SGR	2013
CRADDOCK, David	GSuptWks	2005-2006
	GDC	2009-2010
	GSupt	2013-2015
	DGZ	2023-2025
CREPIN, Peter Charles	GStdB	2026-
CRESSWELL, Robert Mainland	GSwdB	1990-1991
	GDC	2000-2002
	GSupt	2005-2007
	ChSC	2009
	GJ	2011-2013

Name	Rank	Year
	DGZ	2015-2017
	GSupt	2025-2026
CROSS, Anthony Stuart	GStdB	2021-2024
DALLAS, John Petrie	GStdB	2015-2016
	GReg	2023-
DALZELL, Kerry Wayne	AGDC	2005-2007
	GSupt	2010-2013
	GH	2015-2016
DALZIELL, Ross	GStdB	1992-1993
	GDC	1997-1998
	GSupt	2004-2007
DAVIES, Geoffrey John	GSuptWks	2000-2001
	GSupt	2011-2014
	GZ	2015-2017
DAVIS, Alexander James	GDC	2020-2023
	GSupt	2023-2024
DAY, Robert Neville	GStdB	2026-
DEAN, Alan Thomas	PGSoj	2012
	GDC	2018-2021
DEEVY, Gavin Phillip	GDC	2025-
DOCKERTY, Blair Athol	PGSwdB	2021-2023
	GDC	2023-2026
DOWNEY, Michael Shaun	GSwdB	2011-2012
	GDC	2013-2015
	GSupt	2019-2022
	GJ	2025-
DRESSER, Marc Lindsay	GStdB	2022-2025
DUYNSTEE, Peter	GStdB	2025-
EDNEY, Kenneth James	GStdB	1981-1982
	GDC	1984-1985
	GLec	1987-1988
	GSupt	1990-1991
	GJ	1997-1999
	ChSC	2001-2004
EELES, Edwin John	GStdB	2017-2019
	GSupt	2025-
EGLEY, David Akehurst	GSuptWks	2003-2004
	1 <sup>st</sup> GSoj	2009-2010
	PGDC	2018
EVERED, Richard John	GSwdB	1995-1996
	GDC	2003-2004
	GSupt	2016-2019
	GJ	2019-2021

<b>Name</b>	<b>Rank</b>	<b>Year</b>
FALLON, Anthony William	1 <sup>st</sup> GSoj	2026-
FAULKNER, Eric Oliver	GSuptWks	2000-2001
	SGR	2009
FITZPATRICK, Eric Murray	GSwdB	1987-1998
	PGSN	2009
FRANCIS, John Charles Andersen	GDC	1994-1995
	GSupt	2004-2006
	PGH	2015
FRASER, Mark Warwick	AGDC	2007-2008
	GDC	2009-2010
	GSupt	2019-2022
FROST, Leslie	GStdB	2024-
GAINSFORD, Robert Richard	GSuptWks	2007-2008
	AGDC	2011-2013
	GDC	2022-2025
GALLEY, Kenneth James	AGDC	2002-2003
	GDC	2011-2013
GEMMELL, John Osler	PGSoj	2015
GILBERT, Graham Arthur	GDC	1993-1994
	GSN	1998-1999
	GSupt	2002-2005
GLEW, John William	GStdB	2012-2015
	GDC	2015-2018
GORDON, Dennis Ian	GStdB	1998-1999
	GDC	2005-2008
	GSupt	2009-2010
	GJ	2017-2019
GRAY, Etienne Miles Moller	GStdB	2019-2022
GREEN, Mervyn James	GStdB	2003-2004
	GDC	2009-2013
	SGR	2014
	GDC	2026-
GREEN, Robert Francis	GStdB	2015-2016
	1 <sup>st</sup> GSoj	2023-2026
GREGORY, Roger	3rd GSoj	2011
	GSupt	2015-2017
GROVES, John David	GStdB	1984-1985
	GDC	1990-1991
	PGSupt	2021
GUDEX, Raymond Eric	GStdB	2011-2014
GURNEY, Alan Temperley	GDC	2026-
GUTHRIE, Ian McKay	GDC	2022-2025
HALL, Neville James	GSwdB	2023-2026

Name	Rank	Year
	GLec	2026-
HARRIES, Rodney	GLec	2011-2013
HART, Alan Langley	GSuptWks	2002-2003
	GLec	2011-2015
	GSE	2017-2022
	PGH	2022
HARVEY, James Ross	GStdB	2013-2014
	GDC	2017-2020
HAXELL, Graham John	GStdB	2016-2019
HAZLEWOOD, Donald Wane	1 <sup>st</sup> GSoj	2014-2017
HEBBARD, Bruce	GSwdB	1996-1997
	GSN	2002-2003
	GDC	2007-2008
	GSupt	2009-2011
	GZ	2011-2013
HERON, James Millar	GSwdB	1998-1999
	GSupt	2005-2007
	GTreas	2009-2019
	PDGZ	2019
HOLBROOK, Ronald James	GStdB	2003-2004
HOPLEY, James William	GSwdB	2023-2026
HOULIHAN, Glen Paul	GStdB	2018-2021
	GSupt	2021-2024
HUNT, Ian Malcolm	GStdB	2018-2021
INGLEY, James George William	GSwdB	1994-1995
	GDC	1999-2000
	GSupt	2007-2009
	DGZ	2017-2019
ISLES, Robert Cameron	GStdB	2021-2024
IVAMY, Philip James	GDC	2005-2006
	GLec	2009-2010
	GH	2019-2021
JACOB, Milner Alexander	GSwdB	2017-2020
JARAY, Robert Samuel	GSwdB	2009-2011
	GSE	2012-2017
	PGH	2017
JEFFREY, Leonard Arthur	GSuptWks	1998-1999
	GDC	2019-2022
	GSupt	2025-
JEFFS, Brian Thomas	GStdB	2016-2019
JELLYMAN, John Edwin	GStdB	2001-2002
	GDC	2005-2006
	GSupt	2009-2011

Name	Rank	Year
	GSupt	2013-2014
JENKIN, Tony Albert	PGStdB	2011
JOHNSON, Roderick William	GLec	2005-2006
	GSupt	2021-2024
JOHNSTON, Paul Robert Alan	GLec	2007-2008
	GSupt	2017-2020
	DGZ	2021-2023
JORDAN, Roderick Brett	GSuptWks	2000-2001
	GDC	2005-2006
	GSupt	2007-2013
	PGJ	2012
KEARSLEY, Michael Anthony	PGLec	2020
	GLec	2022-2025
KEENAN, David St John	GSwdB	2003-2004
	SGR	2024
KERNOHAN, John Kevin	GSwdB	1986-1987
KERR, Ian Stanley	GJan	1995-1996
	GSN	2003-2004
	GSupt	2019-2022
KNIGHT, Terence Harvey John	GDC	2012-2015
	GDC	2017-2018
KORONIADIS, Athanasios	PGStdB	2012
KRACKE, Hans Ernst	GSwdB	2000-2001
	1 <sup>st</sup> GSoj	2007-2009
LANDELLS, David John	PGOrg	2019
LANE, Ronald John	GSwdB	1993-1994
	GLec	2001-2002
	PGH	2018-2021
	GZ	2021-2023
	ChMC	2023-2025
LARSEN, Garry Francis	GStdB	2025-
LARSEN, Paul Erik	AGDC	2013-2015
LAVERCOMBE, Gerald	GDC	2020-2023
LEIGH, Christopher Thomas	GStdB	2022-2025
LEVER, John Anthony Frank	GStdB	2013-2015
LITTON, John West	PDGZ	2014
LOW, William Alistair	GDC	2014-2016
	GSupt	2017-2023
McCLISKIE, David Neil	GStdB	2013-2014
	GDC	2017-2020
	GSupt	2020-2023
MacCONNELL, Bruce Ralston	GStdB	1987-1988
	GDC	1991-1992

Name	Rank	Year
	GSupt	1996-1998
	GJ	2009-2010
MacDONALD, John Fraser	GSupt	2011-2013
	GLec	2025-
McGILL, Alan David	GStdB	2020-2023
MacKAY, Angus David	GDC	2020-2023
	SGR	2023
McLAGGAN, James Richard	GSwdB	2007-2008
	GDC	2013-2015
	GSupt	2022-2025
McLELLAN, Robert Alexander	GSwdB	2001-2002
	GDC	2021-
McNAB, Douglas Malcolm	GSwdB	2016-2019
McNAUGHTON, Fergus Ross	GSwdB	2012-2013
	AGDC	2013-2014
	GSupt	2014-2023
	GJ	2023-2025
McROBERTS, Bill Hawkins	3 <sup>rd</sup> GSoj	2012-2013
MACE, David William	PGTreas	2009
MAHAN, Arthur Stuart	GStdB	2011-2013
MARSH, David Edward	GStdB	2017-2020
	GSupt	2020-2023
MARRIOTT, David Ross	GDC	2024-
MARSHALL, David	GSuptWks	1998-1999
MARSHALL, Stephan Robert	PGDC	2025
MARTIN, Graeme Stuart	GLec	2017-2020
MILBANK, Warwick John	AGDC	2016-2019
	GDC	2022-2025
MILLEA, Richard Anthony	GSwdB	2024-
MILLER, David John McCulloch	PGSoj	2021
MILLER, Matthew Eion	GDC	1989-1999
	GSupt	2007-2008
	PGH	2023-
MIR, Azher Mohammad Khalil	GSwdB	2023-2026
MITCHELL, John Roland	GSwdB	2024-2026
	GLec	2026-
MONSON, Robert George	AGDC	2009-2010
	GDC	2011-2013
	GH	2021-2023
MOSES, Rhys Oliver McRae	GDC	2023-2026
NEES, Derek John	2 <sup>nd</sup> GSoj	2020-2023
NEILSON, Andrew Peter	GStdB	2024-
NELSON, Peter John	GDC	2009-2010

Name	Rank	Year
	PGSN	2014
	SGR	2026
NORTON, Graeme Owen	GLec	2019-2022
OAKES, Raymond Arthur	GStdB	2019-2022
OLDCORN, Bruce Malcolm	GStdB	1995-1996
	SGR	2018
OLIVER, Peter John	GStdB	2018-2021
PARRY, Geoffrey Bruce	1 <sup>st</sup> GSoj	2020-2023
PENGELLY, Graeme Peter	GSuptWks	1989-1990
	GDC	1998-2000
	GSupt	2007-2009
	GZ	2009-2011
PEREIRA, Brian Carlos	GStdB	2012-2013
PERYER, John Frederick	GSwdB	2021-2024
PETERKEN, Gary Joseph	GSwdB	2016-2019
PIBWORTH, Ronald William	PGStdB	2022
PLUMMER, Ian Trafford	GSwdB	2020-2023
	GSupt	2023-2025
	GH	2025-
REDMAN, Graham Keith	GLec	2002-2004
	GZ	2019-2021
	ChMC	2021-2023
RIDGLEY, Trevor	AGDC	2007-2008
ROBERTS, Murray George	GSwdB	2013-2014
	GDC	2014-2017
	GSupt	2026-
ROBERTSON, Alan William Peter	GDC	2014-2017
ROBERTSON, Robert Stanley	GStdB	1995-1996
	PGDC	2012
ROBINSON, Edward Richard	GSwdB	2015-2018
	GDC	2018-2020
ROJAS, Roel Tubianosa	GSwdB	2026-
ROSBOROUGH, Neville John	GSwdB	2014-2016
	GDC	2017-2020
ROWLANDS, Neil Hugh	GSwdB	2025-
RYALL, Malcolm Boyd	GSwdB	2003-2004
RYAN, David Thomas	PGSwdB	2021-2022
	GSE	2022-
SANTOS, Carlos Delos	GStdB	2022-2025
	GDC	2025-
SARGISON, Paul Graham	GTreas	2019-
SAUNDERS, Peter William	2 <sup>nd</sup> GSoj	2000
	AGDC	2013-2016

Name	Rank	Year
	PGSN	2019
SEVERINSEN, Gary Ross	GStdB	2015-2018
SHEARER, David Mark	GSwdB	2022-2025
SHERRARD, Malcolm McAra	GStdB	2013-2015
SHERVELL, Stephen John	2 <sup>nd</sup> GSoj	2023-2026
SINCLAIR, Roger Peter	GStdB	2009-2011
	GSupt	2018-2021
SMITH, Graham Keith	AGDC	2009-2013
	GDC	2016-2022
	SGR	2022
SMITH, Lawrence Wylie	GSwdB	2014-2017
SMITH, Peter William	GStdB	2014-2015
	1st GSoj	2017-2020
	GSupt	2023-2026
SOLOMON, Alexander	3 <sup>rd</sup> GSoj	2023-2026
SOPER, John O'Shain	GStdB	2012-2013
	GSupt	2014-2016
STANBRIDGE, Terence Arthur	GStdB	2009-2012
STICHBURY, Lindsay Graeme	GStdB	2017-20202
	GSupt	2022-2025
STOKES, Kenneth William	PGSwdB	2024-2026
	2 <sup>nd</sup> GSoj	2026-
STOWELL, David Frederick	PGSwdB	2024-
STRAUGHEIR, Nicholas Ralph	GSwdB	2021-2024
SYLVESTER, Gordon Douglas	GSwdB	2003-2004
TASKER, Murray James Primmer	GSwdB	2011-2014
TAYLOR, William John	GDC	2024-
THOMSON, Alan Peter	GSwdB	2007-2008
THOMSON, Robert	PGSoj	2019
	GSupt	2022-2025
TODD, Geoffrey Arthur	GStdB	2025-
TRIMMER, Murray Watson	GSwdB	1991-1992
	GDC	2020-2023
TRIPP, William John	GStdB	2016-2019
TROTT, David James	GOrg	2021-
TYLER, Robert Ian	GSwdB	2026-
VAN ASCH, Gerrit	GStdB	2023-2026
	GSupt	2026-
WAGENER, Phillip Bernard	GSwdB	2003-2004
WALLER, Dennis Morley	GLec	2013-2015
	GZ	2023-2025
	ChMC	2025-
WATERS, Anthony Thomas	GStdB	1993-1994

<b>Name</b>	<b>Rank</b>	<b>Year</b>
	GChanc	2000-2001
	GLec	2001-2002
	GSupt	2005-2006
	GSE	2007-2012
	GH	2013-2015
WATSON, Michael Timothy John	GSwdB	2012-2015
WAYMOUTH, John Anthony Knott	GReg	2017-2023
WHITE, Richard Brian	GStdB	1994-1995
	GDC	2001-2002
	GSupt	2013-2015
	GZ	2017-2019
WIIG, Bryan Olaf	GSwdB	2001-2002
WILKINS, Allan Edward	GStdB	2010 -2012
	3 <sup>rd</sup> GSoj	2020-2023
WILLIAMS, Duane Patrick	GSN	2016-
WILSON, Mervyn John	GSwdB	1988-1989
	SGR	2007
WILSON, Raymond Peter	PGStdB	2022
WRIGHT, John David	GStdB	2025-
WRIGHT, Robert John	GLec	2020-2026
	PGJ	2026
WRIGLEY, Graham James	PDGZ	2019
YARLETT, Ian William	GSuptWks	2009-2010
	GDC	2011-2014
	SGR	2021
YOUNG, Peter	GStdB	2019-2022